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Romes Monarchie,

ENTITVLED
THE GLOBE OF RE-
NOWMED GLORIE.

Briefly comprehending the first foundation
and building of Rome by Romulus: The principall
warres and conquests of the Romanes after the
time of their first choosing Consuls, till
Iulius Caesar attaining soly to
the Empire, and from him
more briefly to
Nero.

*Where in small compasse is described, manie most
noble, and vertuous acts, atchieued in their said warres,
and conquests; strange Tragedies, secret practises and policies,
Ambition, hate, and reuenge: and how insurrections, re-
bellion, strife, ciuill discord and discention preuailing,
was the onely plague, ruine, and utter destruc-
tion of many great Monarchies,
Kingdomes, Cities, and
Countries.*

Translated out of the French and Italian histories by E. L.

Il premio é meritato.

AT LONDON
Printed by the Widdow Orwin, for Matthew
Lawe. 1596.



TO THE RIGHT HONORABLE, MOST WORTHIE
for vertues, Master Alderman Slany, Lord
Maior of the cite of London: the right Worshipfull Master Tho-
*mas Low, and Master Leonard Halliday, Aldermen and She-
riffes of the same citie: and to the right Worshipfull the rest
of the Aldermen their brethren, and other the Magi-
strates in authoritie there: long life, health, and
all good happes in this life, and after
eternall felicitie.*



Right Honorable, and right Worship-
full: Next vnto the sacred Scriptures of
almightie God, wherein is contained
the only ground of our faith, beleeve, &
saluation in Christ Iesu, the knowledge
of other Histories, are not of small im-
portance to be weighed, and in some measure digested of
all men, for diuers causes if they be duely considered and
examined: but most of all and especially with more re-
gard and indgement of such as your Honour and Wor-
ships are, who for many considerate causes and other ver-
tues, are called to the administring of iustice in the pub-
like weale: I except vaine fabulous inuentions, & meane
those philosophicall workes, which either are morall, or
historicall, tending to vertue, or suppressing vice. Among
all which worthie volumes, as the numbers be many, and

The Epistle Dedicatorie.

subiects sundrie, the histories of the ancient Romanes gouernment is not of least esteeme to be preferred with the chiefest: considering how from their meane originall & base beginning, they acquised and got the soueraigntie of the whole world. This brieft translation (right Honorable and right Worshipfull) written in French, describeth the principall warres and Conquests of the Romanes, whose acts and gests, (concerning the gouernment of their Common-wealth, with other matters in the large volumes contained) are not (I know) vnknowne to your Honour and Worships, and a great number more (by knowledge of which, is reaped no small profit:) but the multitude, or vulgar sort of our nation, not hauing those large volumes, neither can attaine vnto for value of price, or want of knowledge of the languages wherein some of them are written, may in this brieft behold how those great Monarches in their sayd warres, stirred vp by Ambition of rule and Emperie, subdued the Nations of the world, onely first, by flinging into the principalities of peaceable Princes, the fire of ciuill discord, strife, and discension: by meanes whereof when they had gotten that footing, then shortly after followed the ruine, decay, and vtter ouerthrowe of those Countries, and Kingdomes, their cities and people: and how when their Empire was at highest, through those furies kindled with hate and reuenge among themselves, their great gouernment fel to ruine and decay, (a thing most wonderfull in the iudgement of God) so that at this day of their great Conquests, there is no more mention left thereof, saue only the bare name of *Cesar*: whose declining estate (God sparing me life) I meane to bring into as small a roome and compasse

The Epistle Dedicatorie.

asse, as this, which sheweth their increasing fame of worldly glorie.

My humble desire is, that this my poore vnpolished labour may finde that fauour of your Honour and Worships to be accepted, and taken in good part, vnder your worthie protections, the rather in that they who are here mentioned, were Citizens and gouernours of a most renowned Citie like this, wherein you are Magistrates, & gouernment thereof, for your virtues, committed vnto you, whose minds whilst they liued, the world could not containe, do before your Honor & Worships in a few paper leaues muster themselves and their greatnes, to the ende that their great Conquests vnder your patronages, may first passe through this noble Citie, and after through the cities, townes and villages of her Maiesties dominions, to all her other faithfull & true harted subiects, by reading of which they may consider in these thundring dayes, the great threatnings of our mightie & mortal foe, the insatiable Monarch, whom the worlds Empire wil not suffice, *Cesar* like with his adherents, seeking daily by many craftie conueiances, treasons, treacheries, & other inhumane and vnchristianlike meanes, to kindle the fire of strife & ciuill discension among vs, the easier to preuaile, to the vtter ruine, and ouerthrowe, both of Prince, people and countrie, which God of his good grace, hath most mightilie and miraculously defended a long time: let all true English hearts pray, that it will please him so to continue his gracious fauour euermore towards vs.

What vnitie, loue, concord, and peace is, (Gods name bee blessed) wee may all say wee haue felt, doe feele and know, and whilst the bands of them true and firmly la-

The Epistle Dedicatorie.

steth, we shall be invincible : but if once they begin to dissolve, by perusing of this brief historie, may be seene how many miseries follow.

God preferue your Honour and Worships, and that it will please him to direct your hearts in all your actions, to increase in you vertue, which liueth when all worldly vanitie els dieth, and send you long liues, to be most worthie members, for the aduancement of this most noble flourishing Common-wealth and Monarchie, which God of his gracious goodnes grant long to continue, vnder the gouernment of the thrice happie and prosperous raigne of the admirable Empresse of the world, our most gracious Soueraigne Ladie Queene Elizabeth, ouer whom be the power of his mightie hand euermore extended. Amen.

Your Honor, and Worships most
humble to commaund:

E. L.



To the louing, curteous, and
friendlie Readers.



S in a little nooke or corner of a Cabinet, a rich Jewell or pretious stone unpolished, may be couched: so in the compasse of these few paper leaues is briefly comprehended the fame and memorie of the most renowned conquerours of the world: the remembrance of whose great actes, ne can or will, euer bee forgotten. Like an Apprentice or unskilfull Artist, haue I aduentured the disrobing of their noble conquestes out from the French copie, in English prose, and deuiding the same into chapters, in some places augmented from the italian, enterfraught with some few meane poeticall fictions, not altogether unfitting to the subiect where they are placed. Faultes are sooner found then amended, and therefore (Quinon fa, non falla: quifalla i'amenda) (if any haue escaped, as who liueth not committing any) and that exceptions be taken as there may bee, by some prying Pasciphilos, howsoeuer the finenes of their Caprichios, may mistake the sence, the good, vertuous and well disposed spirits will construe the best, the other will shew their kinde: what faults soeuer there be espied, my intent is to surprise vertue, and subingate vice: Praying the almightie to send loue, peace, unitie and concord among all faithfull Christian Princes, and their subiects in Christ Iesu, that as all, that beare that name from him inward shew, so all may both inwardly and outwardly follow him, simply in manner of life and doctrine, for the benefite of themselves in the life to come.

Farewell.



Romes Monarchie.

CAP. I.

The building of Carthage, and Rome,
the expelling of Romes Kinges, and first
choosing of Cōsuls there, the ouerthrow of
300. Romaines being all of one name, and
familie, called Fabians.

O F Priams pompe, his pallace or his towne,
Strong Troy, the wals, or how those warres began
Which ten yeres held, by Grecians last beat down:
Or whether side the praise or glorie wanne
Is not here ment at all, vpon to scanne:
Yet will my muse (in meane style) pen I imploy
Of warres to write long after that from Troy,

Aneas came into Italia soyle:
But, leauing him and farther on to passe:
Excepting too, what euer iarre or broyle,
Did after chance till Rome yfounded was
By *Romulus*, whose birth is counted base:
Thus much is sayd, because *Aneas* line,
Is brought by writ, in *Cæsars* seate to shine:

B

For,

Romes Monarchie.

Who com-
manded
the whole
world.
Virg. Aene.
lib. 6.

For, when *Augustus*, surnam'd *Cesar*, fate
Sole with the Scepter in th' imperiall throne,
Virgil, to praise his high discent, and state,
In his *Aeneidos*, makes it to him knowne,
How Troian race the world then rul'd alone,
Old *Priams* stocke (of Troy that famous king)
In him * most fresh, ore all the earth did spring.

Of Au-
gust.

But memorie, and fame of nations olde,
Swift time makes ende, as was as of beginning.
Romes base commence in writing is enrolde,
To be at first, a webbe of slender spinning;
And yet at last had all the world winning,
As floudes at first come slylie creeping in,
So at full sea, to ebbe do straight begin.

The spread
eagle, the
arms of
the Empe-
rour.

So worketh time of euery thing the change:
O Rome whose wings sometime the earth orespread,
Thy glories gone, thy fame still lasting, strange,
Thy captaines that did raise thy state are dead,
Both *Pompee*, and *Cesars* aspiring head,
With many moe, their monarchies and all:
Whom Time hath rais'd, and likewise made to fall.

Whatsoe-
uer is de-
creed by di-
uine pow-
er, worldly
politic can
not with-
stand.

But, what so fates and destinie allottes,
Fortune will not gainsay, or backe withholde
What subiect is vnto her staines and spottes,
Nought can auaille, no mines, or mounts of golde.
And what againe in fauour she doth holde,
Shall mount, and weare both diademe, and crowne,
And vnlook'te for, as fast come tumbling downe.

Prooffe

Romes Monarchie.

Prooffe of these things by Carthage first of twaine,
Whose plotted seate queene * *Dido* did beginne,
By graunt obtain'de, and so much ground did gaine
To build vpon, in reach of a bulles skinne,
Which she cut small in pieces long and thinne:
In lengthes stretcht out, it farre orespread the field
In circuite, there the walles she gan to build

With houses braue, high towers, temples sayre,
The stately Forte, which *Birsa* had to name:
Whose toppes high mounted, seem'de to touch the ayre:
For strength and wealth the world it had for fame.
Yet for all that, the Romaines it ore came,
The citie sackt, and raz'de the walles to ground:
Whose match ech way, on earth was the scarce found.

Of Rome, the walles and buildings first of all,
Olde writtes record, that *Romulus* began
To * found the same, whose meane estate, some call
Him shepheard borne, or else a bare heardsman
Nurst by a wolfe; but he such glory wan,
As fates decree the chance of euery thing,
His power grew so, as lastly made him king.

And after him, if histories say true,
Two hundred yeares, adde fortie foure withall,
Sixe kings more raignde, ech one in order due,
The last of which, his pride did cause to fall:
And name of king did euer after thrall,
To rule, or rainge, that famous citie in,
Who called was that time, the proud *Tarquin*.

B 2

Their

* *Dido* the
new married
wife of *Si-
cheus*, who
the king of
Tyrus slue,
from whose
cruel tyran-
nie *Dido*
fled into
Afrique,
50. yeares
before
Troyes de-
struction.

* Betwene
350. or 400.
yeares after
Troyes de-
struction,
or *Eeneas*
comming
into *Italie*.

1. Kings.

Romes Monarchie.

2. Consuls. Their Kings expel'd, two Consuls next bare sway,
Whose office was t'endure for a yeare,
Junius Brutus to the state a stay,
Chiefe cause the *Tarquins* Romes kings chased were;
His owne two sonnes, no whit he did forbear
For to be head, with others, seeking meane,
Their *Tarquins* kings for to restore againe.

Justice.
Justice duly
and rightly
executed,
causeth a
common
wealth to
flourish.

A noble deed of iustice, right, and zeale:
O happie place where rulers vpright stand.
A worthy member of a publike weale:
A president for euery state and land,
Vice to correct with rod of iustice hand.
Thus Consuls two, in place of kings did guide
The state of Rome, which after stretched wide.

* A Province in Italye neere vnto Rome, an il neighbour to their state.

During which time, discordes did often rise
At home, and forth, * *Toscane* the countrie hight
That then made warre, but Rome did them despise,
Three hundreth Romaines went with them to fight:
All of one name cal'd *Fabians*, put to flight
Their armie, and they all slaine, left no more
Of that name but a child, who did restore

Their house againe: which chaunce to Rome did fall
Thirtie three yeares, after their kings decay,
And after that three hundreth yeares in all
Of Romes building, things at vncertaine stay,
By reason brawles did often them affray:
From them Ambassage to the Grecians went,
Who lawes to Rome in brasse tables sent.

Cap.

Romes Monarchie.

CAP. 2.

The third and fourth alteration of officers in
Rome, where, after many changes the Consuls were of continuance untill
Julius Caesar.

IN meane estate was Rome at that same time,
Wanting both wittes, and men of wisedomes lore
To make them lawes: but things that be in prime
Come to be ripe, though it be long before:
In Greece that time were wisemen plenteous store,
That in all kind of Artes profound did flourish,
Romes weake estate with wisedome they did nourish.

Those lawes brought home the publike state, & weale,
Rechanged was from Consuls two as then
To *Decemvirs*, supremely that did deale
With euery cause, as much to say Tenne men:
But this new change, was altered soone agen:
Appius Claude, one of that number tho
Committing rape, that gouernment did orethrow.

A magistrate, to doe an act so vile:
The people would no longer them permit,
Consuls againe were chose, who but a while
Did last, but yet againe began to flit
Their officers, for so it was thought fit: (might
Two Tribunes then were chose, whose power and
Was Consul like, the peoples wrong to right.

B 3

This

Romes Monarchie.

L. Quinti-
us Cincin-
natus.

Dictator,
which of-
fice had en-
dured now
alreadie a-
bout 70.
yeares.

This time also three hundredth yeare,
And fiftene since the first was founded,
An office was which onely one did beare,
Which seemes to be, on great authoritie grounded:
Dictator calde, who caus'de to death be wounded
Spurius Melius, who fought to be Romes roye,
His house and name, for euer to destroye.

Two yeares next after gouernment againe,
To warlike *Tribunes*, came seruing in warre
Abroade, at home, as fortune list to raigne,
To stint all strifes of mutinie and iarre:
And to keepe off, the enemye a farre:
Which did endure about some seuentie,
In all which time, men worthie many were.

Amongst them all one *Furius Camille*,
For vertue past all those, supplied that place,
For seruice good, he was requited ill:
He in exile, was forc't to take his race,
Although sometime he Consull were in grace.

Ingratitude Ingratitude so raignes in peoples mindes,
For doing good, with ill requitall findes.

Causelesse exile, the Senate him recalde,
Whose vertue sau'de all Rome from spoyle and sacke
By French men * wrought, and therefore was restalde
In dignitie, for putting them to wracke.
Thus fortune plaies with men, now forth, then backe:
Dictator he was after in two yeares,
Vertue suppress't, at length more great appears.

* Burguni-
ons.
Malice not
of any con-
tinuance,
but vanqui-
shed by vir-
tue.

Romes Monarchie.

A worthy wight eke *Manlius* ycalde,
Soone after that, the Capitall did guard,
Against the French: who welnie hap it thralde,
In doing which, he had an hard reward:
Suspicion foule, his fame and glory bard:
(Sans prooffe) suppos'd he would Romes state distaine:
For which he was cast from rocke Tarpeiane.

The vertu-
ous often-
times are
diffamed
by enuie, &
foyled.

Decreed it was, not any of his race
Or noble house, thenceforth should beare the name
Of *Marc*, which seem'de as then a great disgrace:
But to rehearse againe * *Camillus* fame,
Who seuen times of Tribune had the name:
To leade the Romaines vnto battell bolde,
Had good successe, and died very old.

* before
mentioned.

C A P. 3.

Of Romes seueritie in iustice, of their constan-
cie for the common wealthes cause, the time of
Alexander the great his being, and of the Ro-
maines warres against *Pirrhus*,
King of Epirotes.

Romes age was now three hundredth fourescore,
Also nine yeares, when Captains there was found
Most valiant, wise, the like was nere before:
Who in assaults, their enemies brought to ground:
Themselues not dreading death, or deadly wound.
Too long it were their names all to recite,
Who in defence of Romes estate did fight.

About this
time the
care and
charge of
the commo
wealth
came from
the Tri-
bunes to
Consuls a-
gain.

And

Romes Monarchie.

And in the same vs'de iustice for small crime,
Amongst all which, one of them doe I finde
Torquatus nam'de, chiete Confull at that time:
His onely sonne (a thing faire out of kinde)
He caus'd to die, for fighting * (vnalsin'de)
Against his foe, which he orecame in fight,
Though well he did, law could not him acquight.

* out of the
place he
was char-
ge'd to
stand in.

What lawes were made, were duely executed,
Such men they were, Heroicall of minde:
For dastards they disdain'd to be reputed,
For countries weale, dutie and loue did binde
Their deaths to seeke, rather then liues to finde:
For to aduance the Romaines state and name,
Willing died many, to gaine perpetuall fame.

One *Decius Mus*, did vow to lose his life
In fight against the Latines, Romaines foes,
For countries cause, which he perform'd, in strife
With them that time, which made the Latines lose
The field that day, receiuing bloodie blowes.
One of selfe name after * his sonne also
In such like cause, his life did eke forgoe.

* 44. yeares
after in a
battell a-
gainst the
french Se-
nonois.

Although that he were Confull at that time:
About which time as writen I doe finde,
The *Monarch* great was then in chiefeft prime:
Macedo king, stout *Alexanders* minde,
Whose conquests great, were but a puffe of winde:
For when he had maistred the world all,
At Babylon by poyson had his fall.

Alexander
the great.

Against

Romes Monarchie.

Against the state of Rome he did intend
To haue made warre, if Asia once subdued,
Then next through all Europa to haue wend,
His hands yet more in blood to haue imbrued:
But fates by death his purpose did seclude,
At 12. yeares raigne, and 33. yeares age,
His part being playd he lett vaine worlds stage.

In this time
liued Ho-
moer and
Socrates.

His force against, (but death you heare forbad)
Papirius was for Romaines chieftaine chose,
Whose valiantnesse great fame attayned had,
In giuing foyle to *Samnites* cruell foes
To Romaines, tho in danger like to lose
Their army all, vnder their * Consuls twaine,
Papirius force did victorie obtaine.

* T. Vetur-
us Caluin,
and Spuri-
us Postu-
mus al-
bin, Consuls,
who disho-
nourably
had taken
truce with
the enemie,
greatly to
the Ro-
maines dis-
grace.

Dictator he that office after bare,
And earnest was in martiall discipline,
Expert, and quicke, in warlike feates his care
Was euer more, that souldiers should encline,
Not nice to be, to lodge, or dyet fine,
But valiant, stout, and to endure all toyle,
Which made them off to giue their foes the foyle.

In this time loe of Romes encreasing fame,
In *Saragosse* the * Tyrant then did raigne,
Whom to aduise with precepts good there came:
Diuine *Plato* who hardly scapt vnslaine,
This tyrants acts was had in such disdain:
In histories who list to reade shall see,
His hatefull life vpheld by tyrannic.

Dionisius
the tyrant
of Syracusa.

C

Strange

Romes Monarchie.

Strange were his acts, too many to be tolde
Here in this place : but for to make the rest
To be supposed, from one I cannot hold :

There are
many wold
trust the
barbar to
trim their
beards if
they had a
ry.

Of Barbar would he nere be trim'd or drest,
For feare the razor should his life arrest:
His daughters aye with nutshells burning bright,
Should singe his beard, and so his head to light.

But now returne to noble Rome againe.
After the death of *Alexander* great
Fortie two yeates, one *Pirrhus* that did raigne
Epirotes King, the Romanes state did threate :
His armie did their forces oft defeate,
Yet, ere two yeares were gone and ouerpast,
He fought their peace and friendship at the last.

To which request the Senate would haue graunted:
But *Appius Claude* full seauen times elected
Consull, then old and blind, their purpose daunted,
Of cowardise the Senate he detected,
In publique speech he *Pirrhus* peace reiected.
Fabritius eke gainst *Pirrhus* stout did stand,
Friendship with him to hold, would at no hand.

Constancie
to the com-
monweale
in a Magi-
strate.

Though *Pirrhus* did to him great presents send,
With offers mo, for to reuolt and turne
Vpon his side, *Fabritius* would nor bend
For presents, ne for promises, once spurne
Against Romes state, such loue in him did burne
To countries weale, (O patterne pretious stone
For this our age to looke, nay gaze vpon.)

Yet

Romes Monarchie.

Yet more, what did this noble heathen knight?
(But *Machiauels*, from whom all mischiefs springs,
Worke contrary) he voyd of hate or spight,
No stabbing blades, or murthering dags in brings,
No banketting, nor phisicke poysonings:
Nor no such parts, vile practises most euill,
Bred first in hell, inuented by the duell.

The heathen
learned the
Machiauels
deuises,
now a daies
too much
raigning.

But he sends to (Romes enemy) *Pirrhus* king
A runnagate, a rogue, a periur'd slaue,
A souldier of his owne, who promising
By poyson, or some other meanes, in graue
The Romanes should, *Pirrhus*, dead, see, or haue:
Fabritius n'wold to this foule deede consent,
But him fast bound, to *Pirrhus* prisoner sent.

Among
Christians
now a daies
treasons are
rewarded,
and traitors
succoured.

When *Pirrhus* saw the Romanes friendship, hee
Could not obtaine by treaties, or reward,
Determined by warre the end to see:
With martiall men he stood vpon his guard,
And Elephants to combat strong prepar'd:
He was the first, to Italy that brought
Those beasts, who baremē on their backs that fought.

The first use
in Italy of
Ele. hants
in warre.

But to encounter *Pirrhus* haughtie pride
And mightie force, a noble Romane knight,
Dentatus cal'd, with Romanes him beside,
For Romes estate, who did not flye, but fight:
They *Pirrhus*, and his powerd scomfit quight:
Dentatus for his worthie valour showne; (knowne.
Had triumph braue, which through all Rome was

C 2

Vntill

Romes Monarchie.

Vntill this warre which *Pirrhus* lastly made,
 Five hundred yeres the romaines had welnie
 Broyles still at home, and often ouerlayd
 With neighbours nere, people of Italie:
 Doubtfull their chaunce, and fortunes they did trie:
 The Latines oft, the Samniter, Toscanes, other,
 One gaining now, then loosing, straight the tother.

But in the ende, their home warres brought to cease,
 Some vanquish't, some by truce, and friendship bound;
 Romes fame did now begin for to increase,
 Against Carthage to make warre, meanes they found:
 A stately towne, seated on Libia ground:
 More auncient 't was then Rome, by many yeares,
 As by record of writers it appears,

CAP. 4.

The first beginning of the warres with Car-
 thage, *Attilius Regulus* chiefe Captaine taken priso-
 ner, sent to Rome to treat for peace, but per-
 suaded warre, returning to Carthage
 was put to death.

Great was the fame throughout the world spread
 Of mightie Carthage, rich, exceeding fayre,
 Whose wealth, and pompe, was cause her ruine
 At such time when at highest in the ayre, (bred,
 Her glorie grew, then fell it to appayre,
 By which is showne, all earthly honours faine,
 Fall of it selfe, or else brought downe by fate.

Chiefe

Romes Monarchie.

Chiefe leader first of Romaines to this warre,
Attilius Regulus had the onely charge;
 His army prest, no mishap could him barre,
 On shipboard came, with many a boate, and barge,
 And hoyling sayles, sea roome, and winde at large,
 Neede was there none, once for to ship an oare
 Vntill such time, they came to Afrique shore.

Where taking land, such fauour fortune lent,
 As in short space, they many citties tooke:
 With Carthage oft, all good haps backward went,
 Their force decreas'd, and cuntry them forsooke,
 Their chieftaines slaine, their souldiers durst not looke
 Out at their gates, so hard they were beset,
 And to triumph, naught did the Romaines let.

From Carthage then Ambassadors did wend
 (For one, that could an armie rule and guide)
 To *Lacedemon*, who, did vnto them send
 A captaine stout, in warlike feates well tryed
Xantippo namde, who neuer once denyed
 To fight for them, with all the skill he may,
 And Romaines force, to giue repulse or slay.

But here (behold) of warre, the lot, and chaunce,
 The Romaines had the ouerthrow in dedde;
 They, who but late in triumphes did aduance,
 Doe flye, lye slaine, and wounded, some doe bleede:
 Who winneth oft, hath sometimes euill speede,
Attilius tane, and many him beside,
 In prison pent like fortune to abide.

C 3

And

Having
 first gotten
 a partie in
 the coun-
 trie.

The chance
 of battaile
 vncertaine.

Some-
 all wars
 the
 face of
 100. yeares
 ere they
 made any
 conquestes
 abroad.

Libia a pr-
 uince in A-
 frique,
 where Di-
 do built
 Carthage.

Things at
 the highest,
 decaying
 highest.

Romes Monarchie.

And *Xantippo* of Carthage for his deede,
 Rewarded was, (wo worth wretches ingrate)
 To giue him gittes, and honour, they agreede,
 With louing speech, as seemed his estate:
 But little knew he, of their inward hate:
 Towards his ship, they brought him with glad cheare,
 And after, dealt with him as you shall heare.

On shipboord come, they laude him to the skies,
 And taking leaue, doe leaue great gittes behinde:
 The Master, they did charge in any wise,
 All secretly t'agree vnto their minde;
 This thing therefore vnto him they assigne,
 That in the night, *Xantippo* the should slea,
 And after, drowne his carcasle in the sea.

But (now) returne to *Attilius* againe,
 Whom Carthage kept in prison sure and fast,
 They did with him accord for to obtaine,
 The Romaines loue, and peace now at the last:
 And to forget all warre and discord past,
 Ambassadors to Rome they straight did send,
Attilius with them must likewise wend.

If the hea-
 then held
 their worde
 in matters
 of life and
 death, how
 much more
 ought chri-
 stians in
 smaller mo-
 ments.

But first they tooke an oath and made him sweare,
 For to returne their prisoner backe againe:
 (If loue and peace to them denyed were)
 And at their pleasure, so still to remaine.
Attilius here, all promise breakers staine,
 Whose vowes & words, are not performde in deedes;
 Fayre flowers in shew, proue but illsaouring weedes.

Ah

Romes Monarchie.

Ah *Regulus*, thy fame shall aye endure,
 Who free at home out of thine ennies hands,
 Wouldst not to liue in Rome, their peace procure,
 But rather chuse to lie in cruel bandes,
 For Countries cause to leaue lyfe, goodes, and landes:
 Thy constancie in word, and valiant minde,
 A patterne is for men of noble kinde.

And where the Carthaginians, thought that he
 Would treate for peace, *perswaded otherwise
 The Senate, not to peace with them t'agree:
 Warre noble Romaines, Carthage peace dispise,
 By league with them, no profite will arise
 Romes state vnto, they yeeld, and he againe
 To Carthage went, and payd the price with paine:

*And the
 exchange
 of prisoners
 on both
 sides.

Where being returnd, he raunsome payd by death,
 For countries cause, which he did not retrainc:
 Most cruelly they causd to stop his breath,
 By rolling of a barrell downe a mayne
 An hill most high, vnto his grieuous payne,
 Sped thicke with nayles, where he was closde within,
 Most cruelly piercing his tender skin.

During this warre, good hap the Romaines had
 By Sea, at first, vnder their Consull stout
Duillius, made Carthaginians glad
 To flie, and **Hanno* put into a doubt:
 Though truce of times was taken them throughout:
 Both secretly committing vnder hand,
 Vile partes at Sea, when peace was on the land.

**Hanno*,
 Carthage
 Captaine.

Yet

Romes Monarchie.

Daily practices of Marchaullians

Yet in th'end, full peace twene them tooke place:
But long it did not last, for vnquencht hate
Not cleane extinct, will secret worke disgrace:
And, so fares still the course of worldly state:
Enuie, friendlike, with fayre smoth speech can mate
His mortall foe, and deadly foes, we see,
How ere in heart, outward seeme to agree.

Such entercourse, twene Rome, and Carthage was,
Each other to conuince by pollicie:
For twentie yeares, and vpwards, there did passe
Strange stratagems, with many secrets slye:
Ambition caulde them many mayftries trie,
That, in th'end the peace was broken quight,
And taking armes, the fall againe to fight.

CAP. 5.

The second warre of Carthage, by Publius Scipio, Hannibal the Carthaginian Captaine in Italie, his returne to Carthage, is overcome and flieth.

ABout this time Cornelius Scipio, Sardignia Isles, and Corsica, he tooke
With other holdes the Carthaginians fro:
This second war, most nere their welfare shooke,
That forst they were about them for to looke:
But Hannibal, who now their chieftaine was,
Brought them great hope, and much relieu'd their case.
The

Romes Monarchie.

The cittie Sagunt, he besiege most strong:
Came into Spayne, and after into Fraunce,
And with his armie, marched all among
The Alpie* hilles, and lastly did aduance
His ensignes, spread (so fortune leades the daunce)
In Italy, the Romaines to pursue,
Vext with home* warres, which done, began a new

Stout Hannibal his warre; of which to reade
His battailes three, against the Romaines won,
Shall see, and heare of many a worthy deede,
At large of him, by Rome, and Carthage done,
But Hannibal, did cause his enemies shun
Three times the field, the names, of places three:
Tecyn, Trasimene, the third, floud Trebie.

Quintus Fabius, Dictator was create,
The Carthaginians force to stop or staye,
His valour did withstand their running state,
And Hannibal a while did keepe at baye:
But after that againe, held on their way
To Cannas field, where Romaines him withstoode,
And, where the earth, was glutted with their blood.

Such slaughter there, the Romaines did sustaine,
As put all Rome, into a wondrous fray,
Deuoyd of hope, for euer to regaine,
So great a losse, in minde to flie away,
And leaue the citie at vncertaine stay:
But Scipio young, of courage wise, and stout,
Both comfort gaue, and draue away all doubt.

*Mountaines parting France and Italie, of a wonderful height.
*By the countries about Rome.

Three times he gaue the Romaines the repulse, and in the fourth, had a most mightie victorie.

Publius Scipio, the sonne of Cornelius Scipio, before re-heard,

D

Now

Romes Monarchie.

*Hannibal
had all Italy
at comma-
dement.

The coun-
trie being
fertile they
surfeted
with the
fruites, so
that many
died.

*Neere to
the floud
Metaurus
by M. Li-
nius and
C.C. Nero.

*Publius.

*Which
place was
assignde to
him for the
warre.

About this
time his fa-
ther and
vncl were
slaine in Li-
beria in the
Carthagi-
nian wars.

One who
had bin oft
Consull,

Now *Hannibal* whom fortune fauour'd so,
Had at command the countrie all * about;
The summer past, to winter he did go
To Capua, with Carthaginian rout,
Where idlenes infected valour stout:
Abundance bred their bane, cloyd with delight:
His armie all was welny orethrowne quight.

But whil st he lay within Italia soyle,
He Romanes force had welny vanquisht quight:
Yet *Asdrubal* receiu'd a mightie toyle *
By Romanes Consuls, that with him did fight,
Bringing new succours for to reuenge the spight
To Carthage done, whil st *Hannibal* with chance,
By fortune might against Romes walles aduance.

But * *Scipio* this while stout, bold and wise,
Whose valour great, is spoken of before,
Had good successe in * Spayne, whose fame did rise
Throughout all Rome: and to augment it more,
In getting Spayne, which place his father bore,
And vncl both, to Rome did come at last,
Where for desert, in Consulship was plast.

His noble mind, bent to his cities good,
Required Afrique might be him assignde,
For publike weale to loose his life and bloud:
But his desire impediments did finde:
Old *Fabius* sharply did resist his mind,
Who gaue aduise rather at home to stay,
Gainst *Hannibal* with force to take the way.

But

Romes Monarchie.

But *Scipio* then contrarying *Fabius* will,
Declar'd his mind in open audience
The Senate too, to grant him their good will:
For it wil proue by good experience,
In Afrique if we fight for Romes defence,
Neede will driue Carthage call home *Hannibal*:
Who it denies, I know such hap will fall.

Desire to
reuenge his
vncl & fa-
thers death.

For he who is their chiefest hope and stay,
And he on whom their saltie doth depend,
Long time they will, ne can, misse him away:
So shall our warres in Italy haue end:
To his aduise the Senate did attend,
Debating much, some loth, * yet was assignde
For Carthage warre, which greatly pleasde his minde.

*Of the Se-
nate.

But first to * *Sciil* Isle must take his course,
And there prepare to furnish full his neede,
To rig vp ships, & abide the waters source:
Prest in each poynt, away go'th he with speede,
Though all the Senate scarce thereto agreede:
Yet loe this warre grew to so glorious fame,
As none so much encreast the Romanes name.

*The com-
mon pas-
sage into
Africke &
nerest from
Italy, where
he was but
flenderly
furnished
at first for
such a war.

So much preuail'd *Scipio* his vertue there,
As Carthaginians gaine to losse did fall:
By meanes whereof so hard beset they were,
As Carthage towne was welny brought in thrall,
Enforced to reuoke home *Hannibal*.

The Senat now found *Scipios* saying true,
Away he went that meant Rome to subdue.

D 2

Who

Romes Monarchie.

Who then had for the space of sixteene yeares,
Infested all Italia about:

When he
was sent for
he had his
armie be-
fore Rome
walles.

Put Rome and Romaines oft in deadly feares:
And brought their state to many a dreadfull doubt,
Deliucred now from troubles which did sprout
And spring each day, by meanes of such a foe,
Hannibal gone ioy did expell all woe.

Subtil prac-
tises yd
generally
now a daies

But ere that he from Italie did passe,
Carthage to Rome Ambassadors did send
For to haue peace, which thing concluded was:
Yet secretly their warres they did intend,
Each kinde of way they did repayre and mend,
Their armies that did armes and victuals want,
Which warres among them had made very scant.

Hannibal, a
sworne ene-
mie to the
Rom. by a
vow at nine
yeres of age,
in the time
of *Amil-*
car his fa-
ther.

But *Hannibal* no sooner was arriu'd,
At Carthage tho, but did dislike the peace:
Of hope he should be sure to be depriv'd,
And purpose too, if that the warres should cease:
Displeasde he seemde, but did his force encrease.
Braue *Scipio* to meete vpon the field,
Whose noble minde did neuer meane to yeeld.

Their Armies tweene, light skirmish oft did chaunce:
Hannibal was for victuals hard beset,
He who but late to warre would needes aduantage:
Secret seekes peace, prouisions for to get,
Obtaind, performde, conditions did not let
On Carthage side, but people all cride out
We are betrayde among these champions about.

And

Romes Monarchie.

And iarring thus themselves full oft among,
Now taking truce, and then doe breake againe:
They crie a fresh, these Captaines doe vs wrong,
Whose outrage rulers seeke for to restraine:
Things running thus, the magistrates are fayne
The peace to breake, commaunding *Hannibal*
To trie by fight, what fortune will them fall.

Both armies lay each in th'others sight:
King* *Malsinissa* was on Romaines side:
Who league with *Scipio* made before in spight
Of Carthage, who denyed him his bride:
(A noble mayde in prime of beauties pride)
First his from them, but after did her mary
Another to, the cause that made him vary.

This ciuill strife with many others moe,
The citie in, and countrie all about,
Was cause at last of Carthage ouerthrow:
In steede of reason, will, did rule the rout:
Tweene magistrates also foule hate did sprout,
Rage, insolence, and often death most vile:
Thus foule reuenge did high, and low beguile.

But *Hannibal* hearing of Romaines strength,
Of *Scipioes* bountie, clemencie, and fame,
His noble minde, with more, sought meanes at length
To speake with him ere they to battaile came,
It chaunst, and loe, furie seemde to enflame
Hannibal, who, in wordes was somewhat tart:
Threatning each other, a sunder they doe part.

D 3

The

Discord the
signe of de-
struction,
the plagues
of common
weales, and
private
melanges.

Malsinissa, a
King in the
countrie,
betrothed
to the
daughter of
Aidrupal,
giue by the
Carthagi-
first to him,
and after to
Sylax, ano-
ther King
in the coun-
try there,
to him ma-
ried, and af-
ter, *Malsi-*
nissa mari-
ed her a-
gain, whē
for feare to
be taken of
the Ro-
maines,
poysoned
her selfe.

Romes Monarchie.

The time being come when both their armies met,
Great was the slaughter made on either side :
But Romaines did the victorie there get,
Making their foes to dye with woundes full wide.
Hannibal fled, he durst not longer bide:
The losse so great, that Carthaginians craue
Peace once againe, with Romaines for to haue.

Scipio agreed, Romes Senate did consent :
Whilest peace endured, many things did chaunce,
Here to recyte, too long were verament ;
But Romaines did their honors still aduaunce,
And Carthage welfare, backwardly did glaunce.
Scipio to Rome returnde, did triumph gayne,
And for surname, was called *Africane* :

For that those warres attayned had such fame,
And profite great brought vnto Romaines state,
The countrey whole had Africa to name
By him subdued, ordeynde thereto by fate:
Thus time we see, brings all things to their date,
Destroying oft, and raising vp againe,
Yeelding some store, others doth pinch with paine.

The nature
of time.

Romes Monarchie.

CAP. 6.

The warres of the Romaines with the Macedonians, the conquest of Asia, the death of *Scipio African*, Romes Ambassador putteth the great King of *Assiria* in feare with his speech, the conquering of Macedonia and Dalmatia.

Peace on this wise, again to Carthage granted: (grew.
Rome had home-broyles, warres greater outward
The Macedonian King gainst Romaines vanted,
Whose proude attempt, with Grecians to subdue,
Quintus Flaminius, led forth the warlike crue
Of Romaines, tho subduing that same King,
And Grecians, all subiects to Rome did bring.

He charge gaue to this King of Macedo,
Phillip by name, neuer once warre to moue
Gainst Romaine state, *which he agreed vnto,
Performing it with dutie and with loue:
To Romaines he a friend did after proue,
For ayde he gaue with all his power and might,
When Romaines would at any neede to fight,

*Nor to
passe the li
mites of his
countrey,

Antiochus the great *Afsiria* king,
Came with great *power, the Romaines to withstand:
This *Phillip* then, most willingly did bring
His force, and ioyn'de with those of Romaines band:
Glabrio for Rome obtain'd the vpper hand.
Antiochus fled to Egypt ward with speede,
Rayfing more force, to doe some other deede.

*Into
Greece.

Phillip,

Romes Monarchie.

Ciuitie
cord, the
uerthrow
of the Ma-
cedonian
Monarchie.

Phillip, and he (t'is said) descended were
From those, who, when great *Alexander* dead,
In kingdomes did diuide his whole Empire,
Partage of which, great warres, and discord bred,
Betweene all those to that succession led:
With cruell fightes, each other long did thrall,
As last, the Romaines came t'enioy them all.

Thus Rome's triumphing glorie high did growe,
Her power was great by sea, and eke by land:
With sack, and spoyle, of cities they did flowe:
Nations not any, might Romaines force withstand,
Kings, and countries, far off did at their hand
Desire ayde, amongst all which, did come
Ambassadors from Egypt vnto Rome.

Praying to garde young *Ptolomé* their King,
Now vext with warres, and like to haue the chase,
With power which *Antiochus* did bring,
From Kingly seate, and crowne him to displace:
The Senate gaue consent to right his case,
Sending vnto *Antiochus*, to cease
His warre, and suffer *Ptolomé* liue in peace:

Which he obeyde, but yet to haue a fleece
Of Romaines spoyle, and to reuenge late spight,
Did leade along his armie into Greece,
Procure by meanes of *Hannibal*, in fight
From Carthage force, by *Scipio* put to flight
(As is rehearst before) from whence he fled,
Antiochus too, with succour to be sped.

But

Romes Monarchie.

But into Greece, the Romanes Armie brought,
Encountred him, *with whom was *Hannibal*:
Orethrew the both, & brought their powers to naught:
Here Carthage captaine had a second fall,
Antiochus eke receiued a farther thrall:
By sea also, Rome got the vpper hand,
Expeld him thence into Asiria land.

Antiochus.

Lucius Scipio, was chiefe this warre that led,
Brother vnto *Scipio* calde *African*:
And for because so happilie he sped,
The surname of *Asiatique* he wan:
But speake againe of *Scipio African*,
Lieutenant to his brother in this war,
At his returne to Rome, there tell a iar.

The Tribunes of the people, did molest
Through enuie (sure) the glorie he had won:
By meanes whereof, in quiet for to rest,
From Rome he went, (their mallice for to shun)
To *Lyterne, till their heate of rage was done:
But there as some doe say (such was his chaunce)
This worthy man, death wounded with his launce.

Enuie the
enemie to
all vertue.

A house or
manor of
his in the
countrie.

Whose losse full many did lament, (no doubt)
So braue a man to dye at such an age,
For fiftie yeares he was not all full out:
Thus doe we see, the valiant bold and sage,
When time brings death, cannot withstand his rage,
Rome happie thou, to breede so braue a wight,
Vnhappie folke, his virtue so to quight.

E

Herby

Romes Monarchie.

Hereby is seene the fruites of enuie still,
 Who ne're workes good, but euill euer more:
 Virtue she seekes for to destroy and kill,
 Things that are whole, she hurtes, and maketh sore,
 Those that are good, the enuious doe abhor:
 Which thing hath been, and euer more will be,
 Bright virtue blamde, by foule iniquitie.

Where state and welth increaseth day by day,
 By valour of the vertuous, and the stout,
 Enuie there rootes, and takes such hold and stay,
 In secret wise, brauing among the rout:
 And with pretence each cause is good, (no doubt)
 Infecting sore such places that so flourish,
 Vnder the cloake of virtue, vice doth nourish.

With pollicie, and practise flie, they frame
 Their brasen face, and adders tongues to bite:
 They glose, and faine, and flatter without shame,
 With forged lies, they faith, and truth doe spite,
 And where as once their venym vile doth light,
 They doe not cease, to puffle with poysoned breath,
 Like Cockatrice, to bring them to their death.

(Alas the while) so Rome did *Scipio* lose:
 During which time, *Ætolia* people were
 Taken, to be the Romanes viter foes:
 But **Fuluius*, whose noblenesse was cleare,
 Subdued and brought them vnder Romanes feare:
 Thus still their fame, did euery day increase,
 Held warres abroad, at home the liu'd in peace.

**Marcus
Fuluius.*

Antiochus

Romes Monarchie.

Antiochus, (who late rehearst before)
 To whom for ayde, stout *Hannibal* did flie:
 Enforst to keepe his countrey, and no more
 His fortune, with the Romanes force to trie:
 His kingly life, away from him did hye,
 Vnto the King (then) of *Bythynia*
Hannibal went, for ayde on him to stay:

Which thing when as the Romanes vnderstoode,
 To *Prusias* sent, (*Bythynia* King so hight)
 To render him, it should be for his good,
 If not, 'twere meanes to worke him great dispyght,
 The Romanes would redresse the wrong with might:
 Thus *Hannibal*, was nere his ending dayes,
 Whose noble acts won euerlasting praise,

And fame beside, for euer during still:
 But foule dispayre, (did much appayre the same)
 In ougly shape who now came him vntill:
 Monster most vile, whose actes aye end with shame,
 With in his minde such deepe conceites did frame,
 As they alone* together, musing fate
 Of glorie past, and now his wretched state.

Dispayre in
 distressed
 mindes, so-
 litarie are
 not alone.

Hope banisht was, dispayre did bring in feare,
 And he fear'd most to fall in Romanes hands:
 When him before, most ougly shapes appeare:
 Hell seemed loose, and round about him stands,
 Griefe, sorrow, care, thought, miserie with bandes,
 Ruine, decaye, woe, wrack, and endles strife,
 Slaunder, disffame, and shame to rid his life.

Infernall
 plagues to
 earthly
 mindes di-
 stress.

E 2

Enuie,

Romes Monarchie.

Enuie, reuenge, hate, discord, and disdayne,
Mallice, and scorne, pride would not be behinde:
The pride of Rome so pincht his heart with paine,
Because reuenge did not fall to his minde:
And now dispayre againe his eyes did blinde,
(When as these furies, had his spirites posselt,
More greater yet, t'augment his great vnrest.)

The remembrance of pleasures past, pincheth when penurie is victor.

Shewed him his armies, and his victories,
His glorious pompes, his triumphes, wealth and all
Carthage great losse, how Rome did him dispise:
The wracke eke of his brother *Asdrubal*;
After all this, his owne mishaps, and fall
From so great height, and lastly, now to light
Into their hands, whom he did alwaies spight.

Midnight was come, and euery thing at rest:
When sightes yet strange, more monstrous did appeare,
(As 'tis with all by foule dispayre posselt:
Tost, and turmoyle, with horror, dread, and feare,)
And long before the day gan for to cleare,
In vision saw great battailes, thousands slaine,
Huge heapes of dead, whose blood the earth did staine

Before him, seem'd t'appeare great flames of fire,
Where in dispayre bad him goe end his life,
Murder fast by (inflamde with rage and ire,)
To kill him, readie with a bloodie knife:
Waters to drowne him selfe and rid all strife:
The Romaines hands t'escape, there is no hope;
Hang thy selfe (quoth dispayre) here is a rope.

Beholde

Romes Monarchie.

Beholde this chamber wherein thou doest lye:
A thousand wayes there is to end thy woe,
See there a tower stately, standing hye,
Thy selfe from top thereof thou soone mayst throw,
Here, stab thy selfe thy valour greate to show:
Or cut thy throate, or braynes do knocke from head,
No ioyes in lyfe, in best case when thou art dead.

Dispayre at length the victory did gayne,
And Hanniball did geue consent to dye:
Distressed he past hope, did thinke life vaine,
With shame to liue, that late in honours hye
Did sit, and now to dwell in miserie,
With them who were his cruell deadly foes:
He prayed dispayre some way else to dispose.

His wretched life, those former meanes rehearst
He liked not, (when sighing breath'd for ayre:
Both head and heart, of *Hannibal* quick pearst)
Then what saiest thou vnto a potion fayre?
A bolle of wine, carrouse, drinke to despayre,
Sorrowes are drie; this draught will quench all strife:
Thus poysoned, he did leaue his loathed life.

Ah wretched state, vaine worldes vading ioyes,
High for to be, auailles nothing at all,
Thy pompes and glorie, are but trifeling toyes,
For record take we, worthy *Hannibal*,
And many moe whom fortune hath made fall:
She listeth high, and smileth, when a frowne,
Makes *Cesar* hop besides his seate and crowne.

E 3

Antiochus

Actes of distressed soules, posselt by despayre, running through their fences.

Hannibal poysoned himselfe.

Romes Monarchie.

The ambition of antiochus, King of Asiria, who also would gouerne the King of Egypt, being but yet a childe, minding thereby to obtaine the kingdome to himselfe.

Antiochus dead, *Antiochus* againe
Succeeded him, who likewise vnderooke
In Egypt, chiefe next to the King to raigne,
Yet vnder age, his state to ouer looke:
But th'Egyptians, would not this thing brooke,
They seeing his sleights, and where about he went,
To Rome in hast, once more for succour sent.

Popilius Lenas charge the Senate fro,
Ambassage went, with that great King to speake,
By Romanes power, he coniu'r'd him to goe,
And his great siege from *Alexandria* brake:
Antiochus fear'd himselfe to be too weake,
Desired time, to be aduiz'd thereon
To answer him, to stay, or else be gone.

Popilius then a rod held in his hand,
With haughtie looke beheld the King in face,
And round about, in place where he did stand,
A circle on the ground therewith did trace:
Antiochus (quoth he) say on a pace,
Ere I out of this circle set one foote:
Straight answer me, delayes shall nothing boote.

Romes Ambassa-
dor, feareth
the great
King of As-
siria with a
word.

This Scarbrough warning put the King in feare,
Which made him to *Popilius* straight agree,
His siege forthwith in all the hast to reare,
And Egypt all, to leaue in vnitie.
By writers loe these things recorded be,
To shew what might, and rule, the Romanes bare
By destinie, or through their vertues rare.

For

Romes Monarchie.

For at this time, their rule did stretch so farre,
Inuading still the world euery where,
Who did not yeeld themselues, the rod of warre
Should draw out blood, and bring them vnder teare:
The world, they seemde in sunder for to teare,
Raigning alone, as soueraignes, and chiefe,
As after here, it shall be shewed in brieft.

Phillip King of Macedo (who but late
Rehearsed is) ambitionlie now bent,
To liue as King within his owne estate,
Did thinke himselfe too straight shut vp and pent,
Of promise made before time did relent:
League with the Romanes brake, and purposde warre
If he had liu'd, but death his course did barre.

But (loe) his sonne, that next him did succede,
Incited oft to take that cause in hand,
As heyre vnto the warre, at last agreed,
Of Macedons he raide a mightie band:
Emilius Paulus, did his power withstand,
Orethrew his hoast, and prisoner tooke him tho
With wife, and children, greatly to their woe.

Return'd to Rome, triumphing with his praye,
Where, for surname, Macedonique was cal'd
Still after that, and from that selfe same daye,
Macedo state to Rome was full instal'd,
Dalmatia after, also was enthal'd
By *Nasica*, *Cornelius*, so namde,
Whose force was such, as he those people tamde.

His breach
of promise
punished
after in his
sonne, cal-
led Perseus,
solicited by
his nobles,
after his fa-
thers death,
to take in
hand this
warre.

C A P.

Romes Monarchie.

CAP. 7.

The third and last warre of Carthage, when
the City was quight subuerted and razed to the ground.

WHen time by fates, vnto his period reacheth,
To top of wealth, or bottome of all woe,
A rule most firme vnto the world teacheth,
Nature, ne arte, can alter or forgoe,
Vnlesse that he most high diuine say no :
Who ruleth fates, who guideth time and all,
Who builded first, and last shall make to fall.

Sixe hundreth yeares and fower (now) it was,
Since building first of noble Rome began.
Carthage once more deuise to bring to passe,
To regaine that, which late the Romaines wan :
Force they prepare, with all the speede they can,
Their neighbours vexe, with **Massinissa* King,
The Romaines friend, and thus themselues they bring

To vtter ruine : for now it was debated
In Senate house, to saue, or to destroy
Carthage, when at the last it was dilated
For Romaines weale, to make cleare all annoy,
After that time chiefe, magistrate, or roy,
Should gouerne more, or dwelling there be found,
Commission was, to raze it quite to th'ground.

Bellonaes

Romes Monarchie.

Bellonaes face now fround with tyrannie,
Behold th'ambitions, rightly in their kinde,
That to aspire, regards no miserie,
Or woes, or wracke of others, so their minde
*Suffled be, which with a blast of winde
Is ouerturnde, and vanisheth away,
Not knowing how soone may come their own decay.

* Ambition
is neuer suffled till
death.

But such the nature and condition, is
Of earthly mindes, t'enioy what they delight,
Forward to run, not thinking ought amisse,
Should them betide, or once their purpose spight,
And certes we see, oft times doth run our right
Without a stop, or any stay at all,
Those things decreed, by destenie to fall.

The wise
foreteeth
destinie, but
fooles fall
in their folly.

As here the Romaines, purposing this war:
All doubtcs debated, into *Afriq*ue sent
To *Libia* coast, when Carthage saw a far
Romes force, and knowing the Senates full intent,
Amazde they were, now this, then that way bent :
One part resolu'd their cittie to defend,
With fame, their liues, and miseries to end.

The league of peace some seeke to hold, their ire
Some sue t'asswage, and to that ende doe make
Long suites and plaintes: (and last with teares desire)
Bringing pledges, in fauour them to take,
But all in vaine, denied, with griefe they quake
Distressed thus, prouisions all were scant,
Of friends abroad, they had as great a want.

A great nū-
ber of their
Children
according
to the last
trues.

F

Onely

*Who at
this instant
gaue vnto
thē a great
ouerthrow,
which
weakened
them fore
to with-
stand this
last warre.

Romes Monarchie.

Onely a few, but discord caus'd their wrack,
When warres first gan, then brake they vnitie:
One side, forwards did draw, the other back,
Which thing now last, wrought all their miserie:
Famine, with plagues, murder, and trecherie,
Which to recure, was now (alas) too late,
When first their folly, last brought their finall fate.

Censorino, *Martio*, and *Mamilio* were
Chiefe in this warre, who carthage first beset:
Whose fortunes, for the space of foure yere
Was losse most part, small honour did they get:
Though toyle they took, in cold, in drie, and wet,
Till *Scipio* young, who was th' adopted sonne
Of *Scipio*, that before had *Afrique* wonne.

Seem'd for to tread, and trace, the steps aright
Of his great Vnckle, or else his Graundfere:
For in these Carthage last warres, did acquight
Himselfe so well, the army did admire
His seruice there, a Trybune then no higher,
Whose virtue did mongst them such glorie gaine,
As sole Empire, by Romes voyce did obtaine.

Ore all th' army, at siege of Carthage tho
But thereto would the Senat not assent,
The people by treaties desired so,
Or else perforce, would cause them to consent:
Clayming olde custome, lastly were content,
Applauding much, their captaine newly chose,
For Rome to fight gainst their long mortall foes.

When

Romes Monarchie.

When *Scipio* (thus) had of this warre full charge,
Within the campe, he framed orders new:
In friendly sort, he made vnto them large
A speech, commending of their valor true,
Eke what requir'd, in souldiers to be due:
Purging from them the vicious, idle all,
Who through corruption, might th' arme thrall.

Which done preparte by sea, and eke by land,
For the assault, which to defend, with might
The Carthaginians, lost time on no hand,
But fought, and wrought to offend by day and night:
To Romanes they did many waies worke spight:
But all in vaine, since fates would haue it so,
That Romanes force, the citie should o'rethro.

But like as time of euery thing makes end,
So now of Carthage, fast came on the fine,
Besieged with out, with in themselves they bend
To iarre (alas) of vitor ruine a signe:
Strength fayld, and with dispayre, they gan to pine:
Yet long, and oft, they did the Romanes grieue,
Whom *Scipio* by his valor did relieue.

Succour by land and sea, from them he took,
Brake downe the walles, entred the citie in:
When terror (loe) the Carthaginians strooke,
Like people mad, to runne the doe begin,
In desperate case, to loose all, or all win,
Killing, and kild, at length the Romanes gaine,
The maistrie, and the citie to obtaine.

F 2

Which

The true
patterne of
a most no-
ble Cap-
taine.

Where Ma-
gistrates are
not obeyed
with a con-
fusion com-
meth finall
destruction.

The end of
disobedi-
ence to the
Magistrates
in a com-
mon welth,
is many
miserics.

The peo-
ple desired
him for
hope onely
of the for-
mer, *Scipio*
who con-
quered *Afrique* be-
fore.

Romes Monarchie.

Which to beholde, what heart but would lament,
To see how Carthage stooode in wofull case,
Her stately fort cal'd Birsā, torne, and rent,
And houses sackt before the owners face:
Huge flames of fire, rising in many a place,
A woefull thing for to beholde with eye,
Smoake dim the ayre, and flames to reach the skie.

The nature
of fury once
conqueror.

Great was the slaughter, made by Romaines all,
In euery streete, ran murder, blood, and fire,
The fillie babes, from mothers breastes doe fall,
Husbands, and wines asunder doe retyre,
Brothers, and friendes, and sisters, pay the hyre
Of death, (alas) a grieve it was to see,
The cities ruine, and their great miserie.

The miserie
of disorder
people, euen
their owne
enemies, do
often lament
to beholde.

Some with the sword, some midst the flame to burne:
A spectacle most horrible to rue,
Both magistrates, and people, dying, mourne,
Of former welfare, their ilfare last to view:
Scipio himselfe shed teares, with grieve that grew,
To see the ruine of that citie olde,
Late rich and sayre, welnie laid flat on molde.

On earth,
nothing
permanent.

Continued had seuen hundreth yeares and more,
Flourisht most braue, with plentie of each thing,
And had commaund, ore kingdoms, cities store,
Rul'd eke by sea, as chiefe imperiall King,
With store of ships, that riches home did bring,
All in short space, consumde, and ruinde quight,
Subiect vnto blinde fortunes cruell spight.

Which

Romes Monarchie.

Which well may shew, the state of kingdoms all,
Though nere so rich, so populous and stout:
But fortune can, and hath made them to fall,
And welnie razde, both names and places out,
Recount we will, some chiefe among the rout:
What is become, of Troyes pompe and pride,
Of *Priam* King, and all his power beside.

Afsiria that Monarchie so great,
The Persian, Mede, and Macedonian King
In battaile that *Darius* stout did beate,
And all the world, did subiect to him bring,
Carthage may here draw with them in one string:
Thus worketh time, change, and chance, of each thing,
Base, high to raise, more faster downe to bring.

Thus Carthag (loe) came to her finall ende,
Razde to the ground; to Rome rich spoyles were brought
That were of choyse *and *Scipio* eke did send
Scicilians too, braue statutes finely wrought,
And ornaments, the Carthaginians, cought
Long since from them, which antique were and olde,
Which they by force, from them also did holde.

The image
of Apollo,
of fine gold
pillars of
golde, of
the waight
of 1000. ta-
lents, with
innumera-
ble other
spoyles, be-
sides those
taken by
the souldi-
ers.

In Rome was ioy for this great victorie,
With high and low, *Scipio* did triumph gayne,
His prayles were extended to the skie,
With peoples voyce, and sound of trumpes amayne,
For surname (also) was giuen him *Africane*:
Because an end he made of so great warre,
Whereby Romes gloriy stretch exceeding farre.

F 3

C A P.

Romes Monarchie.

CAP. 7.

The conquest of Achaia, the razing of the city

*Corinth, warres in Portugall, Spayne, and with
the slaues in Scicilia, the razing
of Numanitia in
Spaine.*

When all these warres of Carthage ended were,
Th'acayan people gathered head amaine,
In Greece, and there an armie they did reare
Against Romes state, whose brauing to restraine,
Lucius Mummius Consull, leaue did gaine
To fight with them, of Romes force was he chiefe,
Who them o'rethrew vnto their paine and griefe.

Their countrey subiect vnto Rome they yeilded;
Corinth chiefe citie principall of Greece:
Hundreth of yeares full many, had been builded,
With sack and spoyle, his souldiers did it fleece,
Burning the same, left standing not one peece:
And after razde the same quight with the ground,
No dwelling left, in it for to be found.

*Lucius
Mummius,
had for sur-
name A-
chaïque.*

*Portugall
subiect to
Rome.*

About which time, in Portugall there was,
A person stout, *Viriatus* cal'd by name,
But meane of birth, yet so it came to passe,
That from a shepheard, grew to so great fame,
And with his force, the Romanes oft did tame,
But he by treason slaine, and not by fight,
Which caus'd that countrey, fall to Romanes right.

Not

Romes Monarchie.

Not far from thence, in Spayne a towne did stand,
Numantia cal'd, which long time warres did hold
With Romanes force, fighting with equall hand:
Both one, and other, gaynde as fortune would:
The Romanes tooke disdaine, a poore towne should
Braue them so long, and not to haue it tane:
Thither was sent stout *Scipio* * *African*,

At whose aproach, disorder great was found
The army in, that at the siege did lie,
Which he reformde, and then by trumpets found,
With sharpe assault Numantiaes force did trie:
Did take the same, the people mercie crie,
His souldiers spoyl'd, and sacked euery place,
And afterward did clearely it deface.

About this time within Scicilia isle,
Bondmen, and slaues, did make a great vprore,
Them to appease was vsed many a while,
Their number did increase, still more and more:
But yet an armie, was rais'd vp before,
For to subdue their power and their strength,
Whom Consul *Fulvius* pacified at length.

* 14. Yeares
after Car-
thage de-
stroyed, and
in the 622.
of Romes
foundation

When the
foote will
rise against
the head, cut
it off on the
ground, a-
ny more to
tread.

CAP.

CAP. 9.

The second warres in Asia; the death of Scipio
African: warres with Iugurth King of Nu-
midia, and warres in Germanie, France,
and other places.

SOone after this, in Asia warre was mou'd,
On the behalfe of *Attalus* the King,
Who by his will had giuen to be prou'de,
His kingdome, crowne, and euery royall thing,
The Romanes too; but one a plea did bring
Against that case namde *Aristonicus*:
But Rome replyed, and brought an action thus:

With armed men to trie the matter out:
Aristonicus orecome, and brought to yeld;
Perpenna Consul with his Romane rout
Captiued him, in battaile on the field;
Which yeare following, to death (too soone) did yeld
Scipio, as he within his house tooke rest,
Strangled t'was thought, by some whom he lou'd best.

Not much aboue fiftie sixe yeares of age,
(Loe valiant wightes, foule fortunes cruell spight)
Rome was perplext with dolor, grieve, and rage:
And as some write, in skies appear'd a sight,
It's said the sonne kept not his course aright,
How ere it was, the losse was great to Rome,
So time brings too, all earthly things their doome.

In the yeare
of Rome,
625.

Both the o-
ther, *Scipio*
and this,
dyed in the
flower of
their age.

In

In France ensuing, after this also,
The Consull *Fabius* gain'd a battell great:
And *Gracchus*, Tribune of the people, tho
A man most rare, on matters graue to treat,
By *Enuies* rage, some did him cruell threate:
For slaine he was, about diuiding lands:
The wise we see, cannot shun malice hands.

And now began the warres of *Iugurth* stout,
Which *Salust* doth at large most plainly show,
Where may be seene great matters brought about,
And of the rest before past on a row
In other workes, who will them reade may know:
Why this small worke was writ, one cause was chief,
Romes rising high to be declar'd in brief.

But *Iugurths* warre, (which next did fall in chafe)
Calphurnius first did take the same in hand,
Who Consull was, and after him had place
Cecilius Metellus, strongly mand:
But lastly *Marius*, with his warlike band
Orethrew his host, with many a deadly wound,
Ending the warre, had *Iugurth* prisoner bound.

During which warre with this Numidian king,
The Germanes high, and low, gan to molest
Italia soyle, and mightie troopes did bring,
In France also, that countrie to infest:
The Romanes had by them vnquiet rest,
Great slaughter oft, amongst them they did make,
Chief Captaines many, were forst their liues for sake.

G

But

Iugurth K.
of Numi-
dia, a coun-
trei in A-
frique, ap-
pertaining
sometime
to the Car-
thaginians.

*Calphur-
nius*.

Slaughter
and ouer-
throwes of
the Ro-
maines, by
the Ger-
manes.

Romes Monarchie.

But *Marius*, Confull foure times now chose,
Gaued them repulse, and last their power orethrew:
The Almannes hie, were slaine and soone did lose,
At Aix in Prouence, where their strength they drew:
In Lombardie, at Lysieres, did rue
The other sort, which done, afresh did grow
New warres, that ouer all Italie did flow.

Those people that vpon the soyle did dwell,
In sundrie partes, which often heretofore
Be nam'de, * began againe for to rebell:
With much adoe appeasde was their vprore,
And being reduc'de to quiet, as before:
Swift time that doth begin, and end all thing,
A dangerous warre, against Romes state did bring.

CAP. 10.

The warres with Mithridate King of Pontus,

*upon which grew the ciuill warres in Rome, betweene Sylla and
Marius: of warres in Portugall, and the vster
ouerthrow of Mithridate the great,
King of Pontus.*

IN Kingdomes rule, most strange is fortunes chance,
Fleeting, vnshure, not to be thought with hart:
Euenis each day, both to, and fro, do glance:
Sores thought well salu'd, elswhere vnknown do smart:
Trust treason proues, and plaies a tragique part
With secret sleights: Ambition worketh wiles,
Faith proueth fraudes, and friendships are but guiles.

Mithri-

Romes Monarchie.

Mithridate King of Pontus, valiant, stout,
With armie strong, did giue two Kings the toile,
Gaued them the chase, their seate and kingdome out:
One of * Bythinia, the other of the soyle
Of * Cappadoce, their countries both did spoile:
Which warre, so fore the state of Rome did trouble:
First strife, next hate, and after murders double.

These wretched Kings distressed thus with woe,
In league and friendship, were with Romanes knit
Vnto their aide, perforce did drine them * to:
But here marke fortune when she list to flit,
Who frowning seemde, on Romanes side to sit,
For warres abroad, to hurt them did begin,
And iarres more ill, at home themselues within.

Strife did arise two captaines stout,
Which after grew to warre, and deadly wound:
Note here the fruites sedition bringeth out,
And where likewise ambition taketh ground:
The bodies sicke, whereas the heades vnfound.
Rome had good cause to looke both pale and wan,
Neuer so plagude, since first their state began.

Stout *Mithridate* with kings chase not content,
But farther runnes, into the Romanes land;
Long t'was before the Senate could consent,
Who for this warre, as leader chiefe should stand:
On partes they were, on this side, and that hand,
Sylla some chose, because of noble race,
Some *Marius*, rather to supply the place.

Two coun-
tries in Asia.

*The Ro-
manes.

Ciuill dis-
cord, the
one'y mis-
chiefe of all
common-
w. altho, &
which bring-
eth there-
in, destruc-
tions, soo-
ner then a-
ny other
plague.

Contentio
cause of
hate and
reuenge.

The Latines
Samnites,
Toscanes,
Veientes,
Eques, Fa-
lisques, and
others, now
such coun-
tries as are
about
Rome, Flo-
rence, Ge-
nuua, Min-
tua, Ferrara
Siena, and
others.

Romes Monarchie.

Betweene these two, began Romes wofull state:
(Here may be seene what ciuill discords breede)
Sylla had prest his armie at Romes gate,
Marius constrain'd to flye away with speede,
Perforce was such, and so hard grew his meede,
In a small boate, as fast as he could hye,
To *Afriq*ue coast, away from Rome did flye.

One poison
driuen out
by another,
and yet the
griefe not
cured.

So *Sylla* had of *Pontus* warre the charge,
And thither marcht with *Mithridate* to fight,
Absent from Rome: *Cynna*, whose power was large
That time *Consull*, began the state to spight,
Stirring vp strife, but was soone put to flight
By *Oetavian*, who in office with him was,
Out of the citie to *Cynna* gaue the chase.

The fruites
of ciuill dis-
cord.

Marius on this returned from exile,
His power with *Oetavian* did vnite,
In Rome committing many parts most vile:
Wrong bare the sway, and did orepresse the right,
Murder, and theft, was done in open sight:
They *Consuls* chose, and did what ere they lust,
Their will was law, that euery thing discust.

A quiet
state the
meane
while.

Sylla this while in warre gainst *Mithridate*,
The Romanes losse, in part did get againe:
Hearing of Romes foule broyles and troubled state,
Fast homeward hied, to ease that grievous paine:
And when he had, for most orecome and slaine
His enemies, that gainst him did resist,
Bare sway alone, and then did what he list.

Thus

Romes Monarchie.

Thus one gap stopt, a worser breach is made,
One tempest past, a fouler storme doth rise:
One drowning scape, a gulfe more ill to wade:
One ill foreseene, a vilder blinds the eyes:
One foe found out, a crueller lurking lyes:
One canker heal'd, out breakes more pestilent sore:
Marius was ill, *Sylla* could be no more.

True is an
olde saying,
feldome
comes the
better.

For when the winde tempestuously doth blow,
Oreturning towers, houses trees and all:
Those harmes past ore, incontinent doth flow
A mightie flood, by raine continuing fall,
Drencheth vp beasts on fields, and in the stall,
Drowning both corne, and fertile meadow ground,
One common losse doth make a grievous wound.

Marius windlike at first did blow and rage,
Which tempest little calm'd, scarce ouerpast:
Sylla not bent, that so it should asswage:
But after blasts, brings floods of raine as fast,
The wolfe full pancht, the beare take his repast:
Who hunger bides? but weaker beasts among
The rauening sort, opprest by open wrong.

Sylla his en'mies sharply did pursue,
Some banisht were, and on their goods set price,
Their children eke that after should ensue,
He quite despoyl'd for euer to arise
Office, or rule to beare in any wise:
No man what ere might safe enioy his state,
Or life, if once against him he bare hate.

Reuenge
ioyned
with ire.

G 3

So

Romes Monarchie.

So farre forth was his heart enflam'd with ire,
Marins being dead, part of his carcase tho,
 (Such furie did his raging mind inspire)
 He caulse into a riuer to be throw:
 Behold reuenge to mortall men a fos,
 Neere satisfied, vntill she haue her will,
 Of will restrainde, with griefe her selfe doth kill.

Thus *Sylla* got the victorie at length,
 Dictator made, and had the chiefe place
 For to command, and now againe in strength:
 Rome gan to grow, and mutinies to race,
 But yet farre of, an Exile in disgrace
 With *Sylla*, nam'd *Sertorius* stout and fierce,
 With warre did seeke the Romanes state to pierce.

*Prescribed
by Sylla.

In Portugall an armie he did wage,
 Got many townes, in warres hauing great skill:
 For to appease this vnlookt for outrage,
Pompee had charge, to worke therein his will:
 Betweene these two, each part much bloud did spill,
 After great fights, *Sertorius* was slaine
 In treason foule, with craft caught in a traine.

*Giling
many ouer-
throwes to
the Ro-
mans, du-
ring the ci-
uill warres.

A few yeares after, *Pompee* this had wrought,
 All Spayne he got, and in that time also
 Bythinia king, to earth by death was brought,
 Heire to his crowne, he made the Romanes tho:
 But *Mithridate* king of Pontus sayd no:
 Who occupied Bythinia all the while,
 That *Marins*, and *Sylla*, made the broyle.

Against

Romes Monarchie.

Against whose pride, *Lucullus* Consull went
 And foyle him oft, speeding so at the last,
 His armie all in peccemeale cut and rent,
 And from Bythinia made him hye in hast,
 In Pontus bounds, shutting him vp full fast,
 From whence also, in fight was driuen away,
 Flying for ayde to the king of Armenia.

Lucullus still did after him pursue,
 And oftentimes with both the powers did fight
 Of those two kings, who thought for to subdue
Lucullus force: when each in others fight
 Were come, the Romanes oreprest them by might,
 The Kings enforced to forsake the field,
 Their people most were slaine, and fled, some yeeld.

But here by meanes of mutinie and iarre
 In Romanes campe, which did *Lucullus* let,
 With Pontus king to make an end of warre,
 Whereby he might the gaine of glorie get,
 The Senate did a message send to set
Lucullus home, and in his roome did place
Pompee, those warres of *Mithridate* to chase.

Who late before, *great fame and credite gainde,
 In vanquishing by sea the nauie strong
 Of Pirats stout, who had with power attaine
 The soueraigntie of all the coasts along
 From Spayne, to *Hellepont*, there all among
 Those Isles: yet further did their force extend
 By land also, which *Pompee* brought to end.

* Liued of-
ten most
sumptu-
ouslie, &c.
Not med-
ling any
more in
matters of
the com-
monwealth.
*Pompee
*Nere vnto
Constanti-
nople, or
beyond,
which
compassed
the one side
of all Eu-
rope.

The

Romes Monarchie.

The ouerthrow of whom did much preuaile,
For Romes welfare, and for the common state:
So hard beset till then, they could not faile
Out from their shores: but brought now to this rate,
Pompee prepar'd himselfe for *Mithridate*,
To Asia sped, making his power there strong,
Those warres to end, which Rome had vexed long.

Which entred too, he prosecuted so,
As in short space, *Mithridate* was bereft
Of hope, for ere to rise his state vnto,
When once his forces were asunder cleft,
Small was the succout tho vnto him left:
For after being besieged by his sonne
Pharnaces cal'd, his life he yeelded done,

Vnconsta-
cie of mind
in miseries,
engendreth
dispayre.
Killing himselfe. O fury foule despayre
That doest inspire, thy selfe in soules distrest:
But, what is life, say such? a blast of ayre:
Foule honors seate, chiefe cause of great vnrest.
The meane estate is ten times happier blest.
O pride of Rome, Ambitions patterne left,
Which neuer will from following race be rest.

Romes am-
bition still
continueth.

But yet a while, behold this mightie king
Stout *Mithridate*, how fortunes frowning spight,
Did at the last, his warres and conquests bring
To wretched state, that fortie yeares with might,
Most valiantly did with the Romanes fight,
And victor oft, their Captaines many led
With him each where captiu'd, so well he sped.

Treasons

Romes Monarchie.

Treasons he scape, and murmurings many a one:
Of body strong, to walke on foote, or ride;
No wound did euer make him shrinke, or grone,
To shun the warres, at any time or tide:
Gaynst poysoning, he poyson did prouide,
Wherewith when as he would his life haue ended,
No power at all, by poyson was extended.

His sonne (as is rehearst) *Pharnaces* nam'de,
Vsurping now his crowne and dignitie,
Mythridate saw his wracke in such sort fram'de,
Fearing to fall, in farther miserie,
Into the Romaines hands by trecherie,
Drew forth the venim, which he euer bare
About his sword, began it to prepare.

Two of his daughters being fast him by,
Did pray the King that they might first of all
Take taste thereof, the potion for to trie,
(Loathing their liues to see their fathers fall)
He would not yeeld, but they would needes enthrall
Themselues to death, and dranke and present dyed,
The selfe same thing, by *Mythridate* was tryed

But would not worke, his body long before
He so prepar'de, against all poison strong,
For to withstand all treason, enuie bore
Against his state, who sought all meanes by wrong
To abridge his dayes, but fortune made him long
Happie to liue, vnhappie for to die,
From Empire so to fall in miserie.

H

By this
King, was
invented
the triacle
now vsed,
called by
his name.

Van-

Romes Monarchie.

Vanquish't with griefe, which long before his hart,
Ne bodie could, the Romanes legions great
Orecome, by practise, policie, or art,

Friends, and his souldiers
forooke him, by
meanes of
his son who
stirped the
croune.

And now (quoth he) loe what doth me most freate:
Faithles souldiers, children vnkind entreate

Me too, my friends vnfaithfull to me are:
These foes I flye, rather then life to spare.

Vnto a Duke that stood vnto him neere,
(Quoth he) to me thou euer hast been iust,
From liuing any longer rid me cleere,
Lest Romanes tread my glorie in the dust,
Ore me a king to triumph as they lust:

Since poyson will not end my wretched life,
Helpe me by bloudie stroke to cease all strife.

The Duke bewayled *Mithridate* with teares,
Yeelding his helpe, to rid him of his woe:
To his right breast, with trembling hand he beares
The bloudie blade, that did his life vndoe:
Mithridate with a stroke, draue it into
His breast, when as the liuely sprite outbraut:
Thus this great king, fortune with spight downe cast.

What therefore bootes long life with troubled state,
Though riches, wealth, and honor men possesse?

The longer
life, the
greater strife

What doth auaille long life, without debate,
In pleasure, ioy, neuer to feele distresse?
In weale, or woe, let life be more or lesse,

Death is all one, at first, as tarie long,
Since dye we must, mid woes small ioyes among.

CAP.

Romes Monarchie.

CAP. II.

The disturbance of Romes estate by the con-
spiracie of *Catiline*, *Iernsa'ems* tribute to Rome, warres by *Iulius*
Cesar in Germany, France and England, by *Pompe* the King of
Egypt was restored to his kingdome.

Like as the day (when fresh *Aurora* spreads
Her curtaines large) expelling darke nights shade:
Bright *Phæbe* doth rise from chamber and vnbeds
Himselfe abroad, with blasing rayes, doth glade
Aslant the earth: where length of shadowes made:
By mistie cloudes, all vanish quite away
Rough winds arise, it proues a stormy day.

Through heate perhaps, a thunderclap may sound:
Or els rough *Eol* raise a mightie wind,
With flouds of raine fast powring on the ground:
That heards of cattell scarce can finde
Shilter to saue their bare backs (thinly lincd)
When as those beasts that feeding lye in stall,
Recks not the storme, how great so ere it fall.

The wea-
kest alwaies
goes to the
wall.

So fareth fates: faire weather now foule proue,
Stormes past, there comes a quiet calme againe,
Seasons and times such earthly chances moue:
So Romes high state now whole, then sicke with paine.
In worldly life, cares be our daily gaine:

Lawes, for the good of common weales firme seated,
Through ciuill strife their right vse are defeated.

Ciuill strife
a destroyer.

H 2

As

Romes Monarchie.

As *Pompee* had those broyles and iarres late ended,
Seditious fire began to light againe :

*Gathereth
a crew, dis-
contented
through
idleness and
voluptu-
ousnesse.

Now *Catiline* by *coniuration bended
A number moe (their countries peace to staine)
The state of Rome to spoyle, ambitious braine :
But *Cicero* who Consull was that time,
Detected them of that most heynous crime.

But *Catiline* to *Tescane* came by flight,
Gathering fresh crewes of wretches all forlorne :
Gainst whom *Anthoni*us, (Consull) went to fight,
By whose great valour in pieces cut, and torne
The rebels were, (vnhappy wretches borne)
But fates to men, doe aye alot such chance,
That by wrong meanes, themselues thinke to aduance.

The reward
of rebellious
persons
disturbing
the quiete-
state of the
common
wealth.

And in this yeare fine *Cicero* Consull was
Jerusalem, and all Iudea land,
(Great *Pompees* power atchieu'de and brought to passe)
Did tribute pay vnto the Romaines hand:
Octavian eke as you shall vnderstand,
(Who Emperour was in processe following here)
Receiu'de his birth, at Rome in this same yere.

Five yeares after *Gabinus*, and *Piso*
Consuls were chose, when as the * Swysers bold,
Did cast their course, by * Prouence for to go
Farder in France, whereas they ment to hold
Their biding place (say nay who so would)
By reason of the fertile soile and ground,
Great foyson there of frutes, in season found.

*A people
in Germa-
nie.
*A Coun-
trei in
France very
fruitfull.

Whom

Romes Monarchie.

Whom to forbid t'abide or there to rest,
Iulius Caesar raifde an armie strong,
Commaunded by the Senate, soone was prest:
And in short space the Swysers came among,
Their power most dead, on earth he laid along,
And after that to *Arionist* also,
An Almane King he gaue like ouerthrow.

Iulius Cæ-
sar, his first
charge in
warre in
Germanie.

Besides these two, he other battailes fought,
In parties moe of Germanie, and France,
Neere riuer Rhyn, his enemies he brought
Subiect, which farre his glory did aduance :
From thence with power, ore Ocean seas did glance,
And did arrive among the Brytanes then,
With whom to fight, he found them matchlesse men:

Cæsar fer-
tunate in al
his warres.

Cæsar in
England.

But yet in fine, he did subiect that Isle
Ere he return'd, and letters thence did write
To Rome, (which were conueyed in short while)
The first day of September to recite,
To *Cicero*, which he receiu'de in sight
Vpon the nine and twentieth of the same :
From England, in a month those letters came.

Letters
written to
Rome from
England.

Cæsar from thence return'd againe to France,
Had good successe, the countrie quiet brought
Ere it was long, thus fortune can aduance,
Those whom she meanes at length to bring to nought :
About this time, th'egyptians Rome besought
To aide their king, expeld his countrie fro
By *Archelaus*, worker of his woe.

H 3

Vnto

Romes Monarchie.

Comman-
ded by the
Senate or
councell.

The noble
mind of
Pompee to
distressed
Princes.

Vnto the Senate Pompee sute did make,
The king distressed, for to restore againe:
Gabinus charge thereof * must vndertake,
He *Archelaus*, perforce did constreine
For to depart, vpon a grieuous paine:
So * *Ptolome* receiued againe his crowne,
And royall seate, by *Pompees* high renowne.

CAP. 12.

The Ciuill warre betweene Cæsar and Pompee.
Cæsars quieting, the state of Egypt, his quicke
expedition through diuers other coun-
tries his attaining to the
Empire.

LIke as two Lions long without their pray,
And comming where they hunger may sustaine,
Both being fierce, they will agree no way
In friendly sort, to part the spoile in twaine,
High stomackt both, both thinke the whole to gaine,
Doe fall at strife, one for the others part,
Where one, or both, doe rue their rage with smart.

Where re-
uenge ta-
keth roote,
nothing but
death can
supplant it.

This ciuill warre which now began to rise
Tweene Cæsar stout, and Pompee cal'd the great:
Sheweth lion like, the grudge that smothering lies
Within the heart, which canker like doth eate:
Vntill such time reuenge, breakes out in heate,
And sets on fire, from smoake vnto a flame,
Neuer extinct without some foule disfame.

This

Romes Monarchie.

Hate will
build on
a small
ground to
be reuenged

This ground whereon this grudge began to grow,
The cause thus fell, stout Cæsar was reiected
Consull to be, vntill he did bestow
His armie, and his office last elected:
But hate hath meanes, that spight shall be detected,
Although small cause important thereto long,
Right set aside, hate workes by open wrong.

But this concept Cæsar held in his mind:
To yeeld his strengthes, then naked should he bee,
Where now before, might hap then come behind:
Yet neuertheless, ye yeelded to agree,
If Pompee would, release as well as he,
His power also, which Pompee would not yeeld.
* Hasted to France againe, and from the field

* Cæsar

Brought on his armie, came in Italic:
Tooke many townes by loue, and composition:
Pompee this hearing, with Consuls both did flie,
Cæsar pursued, (there was no prohibition).
But ere he came, to make with them condition,
Embarqute they were, on sea boord, vnder sayle.
And out of sight, might bid to them all hayle.

For want of ships to serue his warlike turne,
He thought not good there long while for to stay:
But backe againe to Rome made his returne
From Durazo, (from whence they fled away)
At Rome held court long after, day by day,
Framing complaints, gainst those that did him wrong,
And offering peace the Romane state among.

He

Romes Monarchie.

* Or Mar-
cellis, a
towne in
in France,
lying be-
tweene
Spayne and
Italy, on the
sea coast.

He perceining the Senate made small count
Of what he spake, from Rome in hast he sped:
And ere t'were long at * Marcells did dismount,
Whereas the towne gainst him did make head:
But he by sea an armie caus'd be led,
Left it besieged by water, and by land,
And into Spaine did iourney out of hand:

Where *Pompees* captaines did vnto him render,
With all their forces, at his commaund to bee,
And with them hasted, whereas hope was slender,
At Marceiles towne, ere he came sought t'agree
And yeeld to him, which done, away goeth hee
To Rome againe, and in his absence was
Dictator made, (through fates so brought to passe.)

Partly
through
feare of fur-
ther trou-
ble.
* And
Pharsalie
where they
fought.

The people (eke) the more to raise his fame,
Elect him Consul, with *Seruilus* matched:
And when he had set euery thing in frame,
For publike weale, to * Thessalie dispatched,
And there a time to fight, with *Pompee* watched,
Did him orecome, slew all his power welnie,
Pompee enforst to Egypt for to flie:

Where raigned then, *Ptolome* his sonne that late,
(Before reheart) by *Pompees* meane who was,
Restor'd againe into his royall state,
In hast by flight *Pompee* to him did passe,
In hope he would with curtesie (alas)
Requite with aide, and succour, at his neede
Him now distressed, for that his former deede:

But

Romes Monarchie.

But he to whom, *Pompee* this pleasure did,
Was dead, and now this King was but a childe,
Who scarcely would to *Pompee* welcome bid:
Of hope and succour being thus beguilde,
Ingratitude, (who is a monster vilde)
Within the hartes of the Egyptians grew,
Doubting mishap, in treason they him slew.

Vile wretches that durst on him so lay hand,
Whose noble hart relieu'd your wretched state:
Did you not feare, the breach of league and band
With Romanes made, but could ye him so hate
That was your friend, though destinie and fate
Did on him frowne, so in his bloud t'embrue
Your cruell handes: but you his death shall rue.

Caesar shall not let vnreuenged goe,
Your barbarous part, though he his enemy bee:
The day shall come wherein you shall crie woe,
Ruying your state with wracke, and miserie,
For doing of so foule a villanie,
In killing him, the worlds flower chiefe,
Whom *Caesar* (loe) bewailes with teares, and grieve.

Presenting of his head, thinke you to finde
Pardon, and peace? no, no. Egyptians base
Sprong from the stocke of some vile rascall minde:
No maruaile though like rogues the world ye trace,
Let not the earth afford you byding place;
But wander ye, as wretches all forlorne,
Your offspring curst, and those before you borne.

I

No

Romes Monarchie.

No doubt those plagues shall light vpon you all:
The Romanes who your kings oft succour gaue,
Shall raze their seate, and euer after thrall
Their name, and make both king, and queene a slaue;
And farther yet, this curse eke shall you haue,
Craft, and deceit, and theft shall be your trade,
Vntill the gallows, end of all haue made.

Ah worthy wight, *Pompee* the Phoenix rare,
Starre of the world, before, and euer since:
Both memorie, and fame, shall aye declare
Thy noble artes whose prowesse did conuince,
Full many a realme, and prouince, king, and prince,
At twentic five yeares age being no more:
What one did euer match thee since, or before.

For noble mind, for valour, bountie loue,
Whose good successe did raise the Romanes state:
For constancie which mishaps could not moue,
For honour shew'de to wretched *Mythridate*,
Himselfe his race, to many in like state:
Thy vertues blazde thy noble disposition,
But cruell mindes, made thereof prohibition.

The stately triumph Rome did make to thee,
Declare thy fame, when thou didst backe returne
With captiu'de kings conquer'd, thy victorie
As bright as sunne, or blazing lampe did burne:
Which sight to see, made them with grieve to mourne,
When in a chariot shining bright, all gold,
Set rich with stones, their eies might thee behold.

Pompe but
young, yet
a great con-
queror.

To

Romes Monarchie.

To sit, and when their scepters, and their crownes,
Their royall roabes, with ornaments, and all
Their stately wealth, their iewels, spoyle of townes,
Silver, and gold, with statues high and tall
Of beaten gold, yet more to shew their thrall:
Their armours, and their weapons, broad in fight,
They prisoners all, orecome by thee in fight.

Triumphing thus, with much more in like sort,
Romes youth went first, next them the youthfull crew
Neere mans estate, then followed with great port,
Graue citizens, next Senate did ensue
Clad in their roabes, of colour bloody hue:
Many sortes moe of people in their place,
Before and after, in triumph then did trace

In order due: Those of his armie strong,
Some chiefe, on horsebacke, some on foote did goe,
Nouer the like triumph there was among
Romes conquerours, for any ouerthrow,
That giuen was to countrie, or to foe,
Yet (loe) (alas) such was his destenie,
Hated by friends, and slaine by trecherie.

What mindes haue men in honours seate that sit,
High still to clime, not knowing how soone they may
When dread is leass in daungers greatest flit,
And being once fallen, soone wither and decay,
On mightie trees growes sundrie sortes of spray,
Whose rootes turn'd vp, the danger is not small,
When tumbling down comes bark, boughs, twigs, & al.

There was
counted to
be in silver
2200. ta-
lents, after
our account
in money,
an infinite
sone.

Besides pri-
soners there
were 314.
pledges,
children of
Kings, and
great Prin-
ces of coun-
tries by
him ouer-
come,
shewed in
the tri-
umph, with
the images
& pictures
of those
slaine in
bataile, to
represent
his victories.

Romes Monarchie.

Pompee euen so oreturn'd by cruell fate
By such as should haue him their succour lent,
His friends who loue did beare vnto his state,
Branches, and boughes, firme fixt to him and bent,
Were afterward cut off, scattred, and rent,
As here ensuing shall be shewed in place,
If well you note, this high imperiall chace.

Cæsar pursued, and into Egypt came
With power great, the king that time in armes,
A quarrell had his sisters pride to tame
Cleopatra, (for shunning future harmes)
On either part there was oft times alarmes,
Which to appease, *Cæsar* did them incite
Fore him r'appeare, as Iudge the cause to right.

In that he was Consull of Romane state:
And for before the former king that dyde
Did league contract, (assenting to a rate)
The Senate with, in friendship to abide:
But th'Egyptians, with disdain did slide
From this offer, tooke it in great disgrace,
Their king to pleade, before a Consuls face.

Whereon in armes they drew them out of hand,
Sought meanes *Cæsar*, like *Pompee* to overthrow:
But he withstood them with his warlike band,
In dangers great: yet last did make them know
He *Cæsar* was, for victorie did blow
Vpon his side, the king dead, he diuided
Egypt in two, and thus it was contriued.

Cleopatra

Romes Monarchie.

Cleopatra, ioynde with her younger brother,
Should both enioy the state and dignitie,
The one to be as mightie as the other,
Subiects to Rome, euer after to bee:
This done, *Cæsar* departs, and after hee
Transportes his force, and armie out of hand,
With speed most swift into Assyria land.

To Pontus next, and there the king orethrew,
Pharnaces nam'de, the sonne of *Mythridate*,
(Rehears't before) and afterwards he drew
Armenia too, and quieted that state:
With Gallogreece, assigning them a rate.
Cappadoce, Pont, Bythunia also,
Romes league on paine of death not once forgoe.

This done, to Rome fast making his returne,
The season cold, in winters shortest dayes:
Desire of rule so made his heart to burne,
Setting a part all manner of delayes,
From Rome, to Scicill Isle, and there not stayes,
But taketh ship and sayles to Afrique coast,
With great desire r'encounter his en'mies hoast.

Pompees allies: amongst whom, *Cato* graue
With other moe, had raisde an armie great
To take their parts, king **Iuba* they doe craue,
Who did consent with them his foote to wet,
In doing of which he was set by his seate:
For *Cæsar* had ore them the victorie,
The great'st part slaine, the rest away did flie.

I 3

When

The great-
nes of mans
minde, at-
chieueth
many en-
terprises,
thought
vnpossible,
which pro-
ueth true,
that a man
is but his
minde.

Cato slew
himselfe at
Vtica, a city
in Afrique,
for that hee
would not
fall into
Cæsars
hands.
**Iuba*, a
King in A-
frique, his
league with
Rome.

Romes Monarchie.

In his owne
person, ere
he attayned
the soue-
raigntie of
Emperor,
hee had
made war
in three
parts of the
world, viz.
Asia, Africa
& Europe,
and from
them all,
returned
victor.

No sooner
full sea, but
ebbe begin-
neth.

When *Caesar* had ended this chase of warres,
Returning backe, triumphing with great spoyle,
In euery place made peace, and ceast all iarres,
And to his enemies giuen viter foyle:
To Rome he came, and resting now from toyle,
He triumph had, and did command each where
The world throughout, all nations did him feare.

Now here behold Romes Empire soueraigne,
Whose fame doth yet continue to this day:
The name of *Caesar* still it doth retaine,
And euer shall vntill the worlds decay:
The Scriptures by the Prophets so doe say,
Interpreted by learned clerkes diuine:
But now at height, note how it did decline.

CAP. 13.

The wounding to death of Iulius *Caesar* in the Senate house.

Ambition,
cause of
many mi-
series.

When blond, when fire, whē slaughter, spoyle & sack,
Throughout the world had run to raise Rome hyc,
(Alas) what woe, what miserie, and wrack,
(Vile wretchednes, and torments ctuely
Her Empire causde, causles many to dye)
Through treasons vsde, with subtiltie and craft,
And slye deceits since in the world last.

But

Romes Monarchie.

But richly clad in throne Imperiall,
(As *Phaë* in skies with maiestie doth shine)
Caesar did sit, and in his hand the ball,
Or globe did hold, for token or a signe,
(As say he might the world all is mine)
Sole to command, no match or mate had he:
Such was his minde, gaining sole soueraigntie.

But here began hate, enuie, and disdaine,
The Monarch new, his greatnes to despise,
His equals late, now vassals, he to raigne
Alone, and they, as base before his eyes:
High minds, secret, the furies made to rise:
Not priuatly pretending of his harmes,
Nor publikly banding with men in armes.

But as he in th' imperiall seate did sit
In parliament, not dreading ought at all,
Pricks forth reuenge, his enemies all fir:
The tree high growne with fatall axe to fall,
Least that his boughs, spred large with shade might thrall
Small vnder trees, and wood that grew him neere,
Purpose pursued, they would no longer beare.

Vnto him came in number eight or nine,
Each one a dagger, bodkins some doe say:
What ere, but there, the thred they gan t'vntwine
Of that great* webbe, begun so many a day
Before, and now iuoue, begins away
To weare and frer, by piecemeale rag'd and torne,
As at this day base Bashrags* doe it scorne.

Thus

Honors seat
full of dan-
gers.

Whē dread
is least, then
is danger
greatest.

*A relation
to the
fourth
statte in the
first Chap-
ter of this
booke.
The Tukes

Romes Monarchie.

Thus sunke the ship that floted with full saile,
Through stormes stir'd vp by furies plagues of hell:
Thus worthy *Cesar* worlds rule bids alhaile,
Leauing the trumpe of fame, his praise to tell:
His vertue flyes, his name, mongst vs to dwell:
Vpon this globe what glorie more can be,
Vertue, acts, name, left to eternitie.

CAP. 14.

The fortunate and prosperous raigne of
Octavius Augustus Cesar, in whose
time our Saniour Christ
was borne.

Summer
the ripener
of all fruites.

WHen Summers heat, with parching flames had burnd
The earths fresh coate, deckt sweet by *Flora* quene,
Whose colours gaye, to russet browne was turnd,
Through drought, fire hot, each pleasant field was seene
Bare backt, deep scortcht with chawnes, in steede of green
Ceres vncrownde, her garland withered ripe,
Pan, haruest home to *Swaines*, had playd with pipe.

Autum, the
gatherer &
haruer.

Fruitcs falling fast Autum the same did hyc,
Cleare dayes began to be o'recast with cloudes,
Turning to mists, and raine descends the skye:
Birds couerts seeke, and beasts together crowdes
Close from the cold, in house by fire shrowdes
The rustique sort, and greater swaynes beside,
Content perforce the winters wrath to bide.

Whilest

Romes Monarchie.

Whilst chilling colde with many a bitter blast,
Disroabes the trees, and baring quight the ground,
When *Saturne* with his cruell lookes doth cast
A mantle thicke, the colour seene and found
White euery where, (but skies blacke) low all round
This globe vpon, and when's depending seene
Trees leau'd with yce, in lieu of Sommers greene.

Winter the
destroyer &
spender.

When whistling windes do sheere the tender skinne,
And razor like, piercing, doth make a raze
On feeble creatures, barely clad, and thinne,
Nye staru'de with cold, looking with ruefull grace,
Doe with the spring to hasten on a pace, (show
Which doth ensue: when *Phæbe* warme beames doth
His force from high, to dying things below.

Then from his hole the feeble flye doth creepe,
For ioy to feele the warmth approaching nye,
Each creature else, whom winters wrath made weepe,
Reioyce cloudes past, beholding cleere the skye:
Beastes caues, fruites earth, fowles naked bushes flie,
Mounting towards ayre, and all doe seeme to sing,
The sweetest time (of all) is in the spring.

Spring the
quickner a-
gaine of all.

But this
spring, the
comfort of
all Christi-
ans, the
haruest
hath been
long. God
graunt ma-
ny good la-
borers there
in, that whe
Autum
commeth,
winter fol-
lowing be
not slaine.

Which season chaunst when *Cesars* burning sunne
And haruest toyle, began to end, and drew
Both Autumne, and his winter course in one,
Dispoyling him of all his prime gaynd hue,
Octavius spring began the world anew:
So fresh a spring as neuer was before
Vpon the earth, nor euer shall be more.

K

Now

Romes Monarchie.

Planting
with care
and yet not
knowing
who shall
enjoy that
they haue
toyed for.

Cesar thus flaine, his glory laied downe low,
His force that late did through the world flie,
Ambitious mindes doth point, and as t'were show,
Their vading ioy, when they haue toucht the skie:
Great is their fall, that seeke to climbe on hie,
Restlesse their mindes, besides their bodics toyle,
Consuming time, themselues with cares do spoyle.

* In. Cesar.

Octavius, who was *Cesar's* sisters sonne,
(The birth of whom recounted is before)
Such loue belike had of the souldiers wonne,
Of Legions he did gather a great store,
Reuengement of his vnckles death he bore
Secret in mind, but seemde, as though that he
Tooke armes to fight, against *Marc Antonie*.

Inconstan-
cie the
change of
many
strange
chances.

In fauour of the publique state and weale:
But ere t'was long, th'empire did diuide
With him, and *Lepidus*, they three to deale
In causes all, before them to be tried:
Triumvirates so cald, for to decide
Matters of warre, of peace, contention, strife,
What euer els, concerned goods, or life.

Marc Antonie at this time bare such sway,
As by his power he gaue commandement,
Marcus Tullius Cicero, for to slay,
Who late in warrs with power against him went:
(This same was he that was so eloquent)
But now behold how enuy sowed seede,
Quarrels betweene the *Triumvirates* to breede:

For

Romes Monarchie.

For *Lepidus*, deposde his office fro,
Vpon suspition of some trecherie,
Esteem'd *Octavius* for his mortall foe:
Reuengde to be, drew to him *Antonie*,
To Egypt-ward they both in hast did flie,
Where *Antonie* tooke after vnto wife
Cleopatra, which bred foule hate and strife.

Discention
cause of di-
struction.

Cupid (blind god) the Romanes heart did wound,
At sight of this Egyptian (stately dame)
Agreeing both, conuenient time was found,
To quench desires heate, and burning flame:
Strange may it seeme to some, the noble fame
Thesetwo liu'd in, with honour, wealth at will,
All pleasures sought, their minds for to fulfill.

Liking and
lust cause
of dishonor

Fine sumptuous feastes, delights, with triumphes braue:
What daintie thing was thought on, was not had:
Gold, pearle, stone, attyre, that hart could craue,
Nothing did want, that might their minds make glad,
Sportes were deuise, t'expell all causes sad,
This life they led: but *Antonie* to blame
For one part plaid, which wrought his end with shame.

Octavius sister he had espousde before:
Casting her off, th'egyptian tooke to wife,
Which now at last grew to a canker sore,
A cause that moued *Cesar* vnto strife:
When *Antonie*, amidst this pleasant life
With his rich queene of Egypt we-
Dread set apart, fortune began to

aring crowne:
trowne.

Sweet meat
will haue
sower sauce

Cesar

Romes Monarchie.

Caesar his armie into Egypt lead:
Egyptians force the Romanes made to flie,
Hast and away, who fast did runne best sped,
Cleopatra, and her braue *Antonie*,
Their high estate brought downe by destinie:
Force, and hope, saylde, their welfare to regaine,
Excesse was turn'd, to penurie and paine.

Delights
with care-
lesnes,
bringes
wracke and
wretched-
nes.

Recalling both their former liues to count,
Now feeling want, reliefe to them was strange:
No hope againe, vnto their state to mount,
Despaire throughout their fences all did range,
Working vile meanes, their wretched liues to change,
With griefe of which, so nipped both their hartes,
As loathing life, the same to death impartes.

The Empire sole *Octavius* then did sway;
Antonie dead, peace through the world was:
Fortie foure yeares, he raigned day by day,
And in the twentieth nine, it came to passe
That Iesu Christ, our onely Melsias
Was borne, (for vs) of a pure virgine,
Our soules from hell, for to redeeme and winne.

Christes
birth, the
spring of
our ioyes.

The Monarch now long resting without warre,
Nation not any durst once striue gainst Romes state,
By sea, or land, neere hand, or yet a farre.
The first that did, were Germanes full of hate,
People that time, louing strife and debare:
But subiects *Caesar* brought them vnder yoke,
So fortunate he was, and bare such stroke.

Some

Romes Monarchie.

Some say that oft reuoluing in his minde,
The burden great of gouernment he bare,
Determind once, the same to haue assignde
To others, to discharge him of that care:
But priuate being, knew not how t'would fare,
To leade that life might be vnto him strange,
Doubting besides of Romes estate the change,

Of noble minde, with vertues fully fraught
Peace to obserue, both liberall, bountie, free
To learned men, who vertue, sought, and taught:
For in his time, most highest in degree
And perfect fine, (it's written for to bee)
The Latin tongue, but now corrupt, vnpure
To that was then, which we haue now in vre.

The praise
of Augu-
stus.
Constancie
in virtue,
maketh old
age long
happie.

When as the terme of fortie foure yeares
Expired was, *Caesar* at vtmost date
Of life, did leaue (as by record appeares)
In quiet peace his high Imperiall state,
A thing (no doubt) ordainde before by fate
So for to be, for good of all mankinde,
As learned clarkes in holy writ doe finde.

K 3

CAP.

Romes Monarchie.

CAP. 15.

The raigne of Tyberius next Emperour.

O *Ctanius* dead, (whose name *Augustus* was)
Next did succeed *Tyberius* to the state,
His sonne adopt, and kinsman in like case:
It's sayd the Senate humbly did him treat,
(Vnwillling for to rule, his braines to beate,)
To take the state on him, at last agreede:
During whose raigne, there chaunst no worthy deede.

Which was for profit of the publique wealth:
But left vnto the Senate all the care,
Seeing himsele in rich estate, and health,
Bent whole his minde to quiet life and fare,
Occasion great th'empire did appaire:
For now both *Parthia*, *Denmarke*, *Poland*, *France*,
With other moe, against *Rome* did aduance.

Thus may we see when as the floud is full,
It falles againe: so fares all worldly haps,
Fruites first be ripe, before men doe them pull:
In seasons faire, sudden comes thunderclaps:
In midst of ioyes, grieve all our mirth vpwaps:
And now behold of *Rome* the morning shine,
Past midday marke, begins for to decline.

Diuines

Romes Monarchie.

Diuines doe hold, that in the fifteenth yeere
Tyberius raignd, our Saviour Iesu Christ
Did suffer death, (to make vs sinners cleere,
To dwell with him that sits in throne most highest,
Who helpes vs aye, when dangers we be nighest)
Whose Empire stands, and euer shall endure,
When worlds pompe still fleeteth, neuer sure.

CAP. 16.

The raigne of Caligula.

Caligula.

T*yberius* sonne, *Caligula* so calde
Succeeded next, a most pernicious childe,
Vnto all vice he was a bondslaue thralde,
Most fit to dwell with sauage men and wilde,
A life he led, that wicked was and vilde:
Great heapes of gold, *Tyberius* in his raigne
Had got, he spent in one ycare, lewd and vaine.

Claudius.

C*laudius* next him supposde his vncl, he
Came to England, reduc'd againe that land
That did reuolt, from Romanes soueraignie,
The Britaines did resist him with strong hand:
But he orecame them with his Romane band,
And ere from thence did part, (vnto his fame)
A citie built, and calde it by his name.

Christs
death, our
comforta-
ble haruest,
God grant
vs grace to
gather ther-
by frutes,
that in win-
ter we dyc
not, but liue

The Bry-
taines re-
uolt from
Rome: go-
uernement.

O'oucester,
so *Claudius*
Cavar.

Nero,

Romes Monarchie.

Nero.

Virtue buildeth,
vice plucketh
downe.

Next him ensued *Nero*, when once againe
The Britons bold began to warre anew:
The Romanes they did pill, and put to paine:
In France the Frenchmen also them orethrew:
A mightie wind in many countries blew,
In Syria, and also Armea,
Their forces most, were beat and shronk away.

*Who was
gouernor
of a pro-
uince in
France, for
the Ro-
manes
wrote let-
ters into
Spayne.
The onely
decaye of
the Empire
was ciuill
discord.

Last out of Spayne old *Galba* did retire,
Drawne on by * *Julius Vindex*, who from France
Perswaded him to *Cæsars* seate aspire,
(See how Ambition mortall minds doe launce)
He was content, though old, (to follow chaunce)
Did march to Rome, vpon whose comming fled
Nero, who was most wretchedly found dead.

Virtues
praise neuer
dyeth.

Whose storie full at large may well be seene,
In *Tacitus* in English fine translate,
A worthie present for a King, or Queene,
For noble Peeres, or others of high itate:
His praise deseru'd, shall neuer come too late,
Who did so well, in English it reduce
For high degree, to serue for publique vse.

Whose in-
crease is
mightie
now a
dayes.

Where is describ'd *Nero* his monstrous life:
A common-wealth, and state, in pieces torne:
Where may be seene, what truites doe come of strife,
How broods of vice, each quiet state doth scorne,
And seeke to ruine: but subjects truly borne
Flye ciuill discord, bringing woes and spoyles:
Most foule are fowles their owne nests that befiles.

F I N I S.